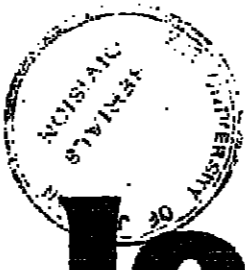


France to seek Third World debt relief

PARIS (AP) — France will press for Third World debt relief at next week's summit of industrial powers, a senior French official said Friday. The summit will offer a chance for a "serious" discussion with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to see where the USSR is and where it is going, said Anne Lauvergeon, adviser to President Francois Mitterrand. Mr. Gorbachev has been invited to speak to the leaders of the "new industrial nations" after their summit, and is expected to make a case for France's position. "The USSR is helping itself on its road, at its pace," said Ms. Lauvergeon, deputy secretary general of the Elysee Palace. But debt relief for developing countries and those with "intermediate economies" is at the top of France's agenda for the London summit, Ms. Lauvergeon said. She noted that underdeveloped countries were expected to meet when the 1994 G-7 summit focused on Eastern Europe, and are now concerned that the 1991 meeting will be monopolised by talks on aid to the Soviet Union.



Jordan Times

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Moroccan dissident fails to arrive in Paris, held by Gabon

PARIS (R) — Moroccan dissident Abdelmoumen Diori failed to arrive in Paris as scheduled Saturday and his lawyer said he was being held prisoner in Gabon. Mr. Diori, a resident of France for 17 years, was expelled to Gabon June 20 as he was about to publish a book entitled "Who Owns Morocco?" describing the personal fortune of King Hassan. He was expected back in Paris Saturday morning after a French court overruled the government's expulsion order this week, saying it had not proved its case. "But he was not on the plane," said Mr. Diori's lawyer, Mourad Oussedik. "He telephoned his family and said Gabonese authorities were holding him, that they would release him only if the French government directly requested them to," Mr. Oussedik told Reuters. The French government has said it would appeal to have the expulsion order upheld.

Saudi foreign minister arrives in Turkey

ANKARA (AP) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal arrived Saturday for an official visit to discuss the regional problems in the aftermath of the Gulf war. A foreign ministry official said Prince Saud and his Turkish counterpart would oversee preparations for an Islamic conference meeting of foreign ministers in Istanbul next month. Although Turkish newspapers speculated that Prince Saud would bring a new package of aid to offset Turkey's economic losses from the Gulf war, there was no official confirmation about it. Turkey closed two Iraqi oil pipelines during the Gulf crisis and ceased trading with Iraq to comply with the U.N. embargo after the invasion of Kuwait. Ankara estimated its Gulf war losses to be around \$8 billion. Japan, Western Europe and Gulf states have pledged \$3.5 billion in special aid to Turkey to offset the economic losses. Saudi Arabia has already provided Turkey an aid of \$1.1 billion worth crude oil.

Italy: No attempt against Cossiga's life

ROME (R) — The Italian government said Saturday an investigation showed there was no attempt to assassinate President Francesco Cossiga in Hungary last week. Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti's office issued a statement which appeared to put to rest what Italian newspapers have called the "mystery of Budapest." It said Mr. Andreotti received a message from the Hungarian government saying Italian and Hungarian investigators had ruled out an assassination attempt. Traces of explosives were found during a routine security check at a cemetery where Mr. Cossiga last Sunday paid homage to Hungarian soldiers killed during the 1956 anti-communist uprising. Italian media, including state television, reported that police had thwarted an assassination attempt. Hungarian officials later said sniffer dogs had picked up traces of quarry explosives on a stone in the cemetery.

Syria seizes 16 kg of heroin

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syrian authorities have confiscated from Arab smugglers 16.5 kilograms of heroin, the director of criminal security announced Saturday. Lieutenant-General Mohammed Khaddour said it was the largest quantity of heroin ever seized in Syria. He said the price of heroin in Syria is \$50,000 a kilogramme, valuing the haul at \$825,000. Gen. Khaddour's announcement, at a news conference here, was the latest in a recent series of publicised drug busts. He said that during the last few months, the security services have seized 90 tonnes of marijuana and 14 kilograms of cocaine. Gen. Khaddour said the campaign against drugs is being pursued under the direction of a special committee chaired by the interior ministry. It shows, he said, Syria's "serious willingness to curb drug trafficking and addiction."

Jordan has no political detainees — Sboul

Minister of interior promises to review cases of those convicted of security crimes

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan does not have any political detainees except those convicted for security crimes that might have been related to political ideology, and the new government will reconsider the status of these cases with an eye to finding solutions which would not contradict with the country's security needs, Interior Minister Jawdat Sboul said Saturday.

In response to Amnesty International's annual report on Jordan and other Middle East countries which was released last week, Mr. Sboul said he could "confirm that we do not have a single political detainee in our prisons."

The minister, however, pointed out that there were less than 30 cases of convictions on crimes related to the country's security and that those convicted were currently serving their

prison terms. "We have the determination, as a new government, to look into the status of those serving their terms with a view to finding a solution without tampering with the foundations of the country's and citizens' security," Mr. Sboul told the Jordan Times.

In its annual report, Amnesty International maintained that "suspected government opponents continued to be imprisoned or detained in Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Libya."

The report also said that "torture of ill-treatment was also reported in Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco."

"I can stress without any reservation that even those convicted of crimes that would normally be condemned by all people are treated well and humanely," Mr. Sboul said.

"Such treatment no longer exists in our country at all," he added.

Mr. Sboul, who was governor of

Amman before joining the new government, said that international organisations concerned with the affairs of prisoners have visited prisons in the country and have come out with "positive impressions of their situation."

"If ill-treatment means that they have lost their freedom by being imprisoned then that is what prison is all about," the minister said.

Amnesty International, in its report on Jordan, is believed to have been referring to a case in June where six political activists were detained for investigation on charges of distributing leaflets which contained personal slander against then-Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

At the time security sources told the Jordan Times that there was no evidence that the detained activists were the ones who issued or distributed the pamphlets except that copies of the leaflets were found in their houses. The detainees allegedly belong



Jawdat Al Sboul

to the Jordanian Communist Party — "the Revolutionary Path," which is a breakaway faction of the Jordanian Communist Party.

The eight detainees (two more were rounded up after the first six) were released just before Eid Al Adha for lack of sufficient evidence and their cases were not referred to the courts.

It was not clear whether the decision to release the detainees was taken by Mr. Badran's government before it left office or by Mr. Taher Masri. The date of their release was June 19, the same day that Mr. Masri was sworn in, along with his cabinet, as prime minister.

At the time the arrests sparked a debate among political activists and some Parliament members who argued that the detention of the group was in contravention with the spirit of the democratisation process.

Iraq agrees to provide expanded nuclear list

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Faced with a U.N. deadline and threats of military action, Iraq has promised to divulge a new, expanded list of its nuclear facilities, the chief of the U.N. inspection team said Saturday.

Dimitri Periccos, chief inspector of the team, said he had requested the new list because Iraq's declarations to date had not included details of key facilities in the uranium enrichment process.

"The inspection cannot be complete unless we know where the facilities are or at least the declaration of facilities," he told reporters.

The five permanent members of the Security Council have given Iraq until July 25 to reveal all its nuclear secrets. U.S. officials say Washington has drawn up a list of military targets which will be attacked if Iraq does not comply.

Western diplomats in New York declined to say the U.N. demand was an ultimatum, but said the warning was unmistakable and demanded immediate cooperation.

"I have been asked to convey

certain questions to my government" about the nuclear issue, the Iraqi ambassador, Abdul Amir Al Anbari, told reporters after he was summoned by the ambassadors of the United States, Britain, China, France and the Soviet Union. He declined to elaborate.

Mr. Anbari said Iraq "already has declared a complete and truthful picture and to say anything otherwise is wrong." Earlier, he called charges of Iraqi cheating "lies being spread by the Americans and their British for their purposes."

Britain's ambassador, Sir David Hannay, told reporters: "We don't issue ultimatums, but we did have some questions."

"The bottom line is that we are going to get rid of that nuclear weapons programme one way or another," Mr. Hannay told reporters Thursday night.

Western diplomats said they would decide later on a resolution.

Mr. Periccos said in Baghdad he had asked in writing for the list and expected to receive it late Saturday or early Sunday. He said the earlier list, pro-

duced July 7 under the threat of U.S. air strikes and in the face of angry demands from the Security Council, lacked certain key information.

"It does not include the facilities where research, development, storage, use, installation, manufacturing of such equipment and (where) the production of such materials takes place."

Mr. Periccos and his team, from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), are working under the U.N. special commission which is supervising the scrapping of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction under the Gulf war ceasefire terms.

Mr. Periccos, whose team is the third to visit Iraq, said they had inspected six of the eight locations declared in the July 7 list.

They had also visited a uranium production plant in the Mosul area, which was not on either of the two lists submitted by Iraq.

The first list submitted in March concealed the fact that Iraq had a uranium enrichment

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan's human rights record faces 'traditional' probe

From Waleed Sadi in Geneva

"THE WORKING group set up by the U.N. Human Rights Committee (UNHRC) has finalised the list of questions that it is recommending that the committee take up in connection with the consideration of Jordan's second periodic report scheduled for examination July 17 and 18. As usual the list of questions purport to raise inquiries in connection with most of the articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

A swift glance at the line of questions being prepared for Jordan suggest that they are by and large rather "routine," pretty much close to the kind of questions that are usually prepared for most of the reporting state parties. What appears to be fatally wrong with the prepared list of questions is the absence of any signal that the committee is even remotely aware of the impact of the fundamental changes in Jordan's civil and political development ever since the reintroduction of parliamentary democracy in 1989. This omission could very well be attributed to the fact that Jordan's report under scrutiny did not highlight sufficiently enough the dramatic metaphors in the country's human rights record in recent months.

Instead of picking where

the new age and era have reached the committee appears to be hooked on the traditional probing in a way unrelated to the level of democratic achievement that the Kingdom has been able to attain in the last few years. It is up to the Jordanian delegation to correct this perspective by playing up the dramatic evolution in the country's socio-economic development and progress. It is unfortunate that the Jordanian delegation will not include a member of parliament for this purpose. A presence of a parliamentary member in the Jordanian delegation would have gone a long way to buttress the country's claim of political progress.

Having said that, it is pertinent to point out the salient questions being prepared for Jordan.

— The status of the covenant in Jordan's legislation. In particular the committee would want to know if the covenant can be invoked in a court of law.

— The status of the state of emergency in the country, especially in view of the long duration of such a state and the lack of observance of para 3 of article 4 of the covenant, which requires states to notify other state parties about its intention to resort to a state of emergency.

— Discrimination in rela-

tion to women and what effective remedies are available to them to pursue in this context.

— Pre-trial detention, especially when they are prolonged.

— Ill-treatment of detainees and what measures are available to investigate such ill-treatment and punish the culprit.

— Conditions in prisons.

— Martial law courts and access to the right of appeal.

— Freedom of movement especially in connection with the right to obtain passports.

— Freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

— Telephone tapping and protection from it.

— Information on the formation of political parties. Some of these questions could be further elaborated as the dialogue continues with the Jordanian side. At the end of the consideration the committee will make a summation of its position as to where the country is still in violation of the covenant with a view to encouraging the country to make the necessary changes in its laws and practices.

As stated before, few countries escape the perusal of the committee unscathed. This 42nd session of the UNHRC is already dubbed as the Arab session in view of

(Continued on page 5)

Syria to reply to U.S. soon

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syrian Information Minister Mohammad Salman said Saturday that a Syrian response to the U.S. call for a Middle East peace conference was expected soon.

Answering a question about Syria's position on the plan, which would bring Syria and Israel to the negotiating table, Mr. Salman said: "The response will be given soon."

Mr. Salman was speaking to Chinese journalists at a news conference linked to the visit to Syria by Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng.

His statement confirmed remarks made last Wednesday by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that the U.S. administration was expecting a Syrian response "very, very soon."

Mr. Baker has travelled to the Middle East four times this year to try to get peace negotiations going. His last trip was in May.

Mr. Baker has been trying to put together a peace conference to be held under U.S. and Soviet auspices.

After his shuttle diplomacy appeared to stall, President George Bush in early June sent letters urging the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan and Israel to bridge their differences to get a conference under way.

Israel responded almost immediately, saying it was unwilling to compromise further on the key sticking points.

(Continued on page 5)

Israelis kill Nablus boy, shoot and wound 7 others

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — One Palestinian boy was killed and at least seven wounded in clashes with Israeli soldiers in the occupied territories Saturday, Palestinian sources said.

The army confined the 120,000 residents of Nablus, the West Bank's biggest city, to their homes and searched for activists of the 43-month uprising.

In the West Bank town of Jenin, soldiers shot dead Hani Mustafa Abid, 17, among a group of Palestinians who allegedly hurled petrol bombs, stones and bottles at an army vehicle.

Another four people were injured and the army clamped a curfew on the town, Palestinian sources said.

There were scattered clashes throughout the occupied Gaza Strip. In Bani Shuhaila refugee camp, soldiers opened fire after their patrol was stoned. They wounded Youssef Abu Jami, 22, in the head and transferred him to an Israeli hospital in serious condition, sources said.

Palestinian sources said that in Khan Yunis refugee camp soldiers battled masked stone-throwers with rubber bullets and wounded a nine-year-old Palestinian boy.

The clashes erupted as soldiers backed by helicopters conducted a large arrest sweep and house-to-house searches in Nablus after imposing a curfew on the area at dawn.

In the raid in the city's Kasbah section, dozens of suspected uprising activists were arrested and knives, axes and homemade guns were confiscated, the army said.

Witnesses said it was the largest-scale military raid in what is the West Bank's largest city in more than a year. Israel Radio said detainees were being held at a Nablus school building turned into a makeshift detention centre.

The fatal clash was in the northern West Bank city of Jenin where firebombs, empty bottles and rocks were thrown at on-duty green-uniformed border policemen, the army said.

"The force identified the fire-bomb thrower and opened fire wounding him," the army statement said.

It added that the victim died at

Afula hospital after he was rushed in serious condition from Jenin hospital, near the site of the clash.

Arab reports were at odds with the army's identification of the victim, saying he was a 22-year-old pubcart vendor in Jenin, and that he was shot in the chest, arm and abdomen.

They said that in all three firebombs were thrown at soldiers and an Israeli bus in Jenin, and that in the commotion troops also opened fire from rooftop outposts, wounding also four other people.

Among the others wounded was a 13-year-old boy in serious condition with a gunshot wound in the abdomen, the reports said.

The army reported one other wounded Palestinian from a nearby town and said it was checking the other reports. Parts of Jenin was also under curfew after the clash, the army said.

Israeli authorities and Palestinians have reported a sharp rise in the use of guns by activists in the occupied territories. Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens vowed to halt the trend.

Yugoslav army and rebel militias set for showdown

BELGRADE (Agencies) — The Yugoslav presidency accepted a European-brokered peace plan for the restive country Saturday but added a demand that most paramilitary forces be demobilised, the Tanjug news agency reported.

Just hours after the decision, Stipe Mesic, chairman of the presidency and constitutionally the commander-in-chief, expressed uncertainty about who was controlling the army.

Asked if the presidency was truly in command, Mr. Mesic told reporters in Zagreb, Croatia's capital: "We hope so, and in a few days we should be able to say whether this is true."

Harsh army actions and threats against Slovenia and Croatia, Yugoslavia's two breakaway republics in the past two weeks, have raised concern that the army had acted on its own.

Mr. Mesic's comments appeared aimed at conveying the impression that senior generals, most of them hardline Serbs, remained reluctant to accept civilian authority, especially from a presidency headed by a Croat.

Mr. Mesic also seemed to put a different interpretation on just which military formations had to be disbanded than what was reported by Tanjug, Yugoslavia's official news agency.

Slovenia and Croatia are thought to have at least 50,000 paramilitary troops deployed in the field, all of whom should be

demobilised under the ultimatum.

Defence Minister Veljko Kadijevic sat in on the talks and, according to official sources, drove home the military's point of view that the republics must be brought under control.

The presidency's ultimatum set the stage for another possible showdown between the army and the paramilitary defence forces which have sprung up around Yugoslavia in the past year.

No text was published of what the presidency actually decided. The varying versions indicated continued divisions within the eight-member presidency along Serb-Croat lines. Mr. Mesic said the meeting was very "heated, with raising of voices."

Tanjug said the presidency demanded the dissolution of all armed forces "except the Yugoslav army and regular peacetime militia formations" by midnight (2200 GMT) Thursday.

That seemed to include demobilisation of Croatia's National Guard and paramilitary Serbian groups inside Croatia that have been fighting Croatian forces in regions with a heavy concentration of Serbs.

The European peace accord had said nothing about those forces, and Mr. Mesic asserted Croatian militias were exempt from the demobilisation order but not the Serb paramilitary formations inside Croatia.

Saudis locate 'black box' at Jeddah

JEDDAH (AP) — Saudi Arabian authorities have located a "black box" from the jet full of Nigerian pilgrims that crashed while attempting an emergency landing, killing all aboard, air officials said Saturday.

Representatives of Areen Travel Agency, which arranged the flight, said the cockpit voice recorder had been found. It could be vital in trying to determine the exact cause of the crash.

Also Saturday, airline officials and diplomats struggled to piece together the remains of 14 Western crew members killed when the jet crashed in flames Thursday.

They said the task was complicated because most of the bodies were reduced to ashes when the DC-8 nose-dived to the tarmac.

The plane was chartered by the Nigerian-based firm Holdtrade from National of Canada to fly people returning from the Hajj.

After take-off for Sokoto, Nigeria, the pilot reported a fire and faulty landing gear. The plane crashed as he attempted an emergency landing.

Nigerian embassy officials said some Nigerian victims were buried Saturday in a cemetery 14 kilometres from Jeddah, on the road to the Holy City of Mecca.

(Continued on page 5)

Turkish police kill 11 extremists in raids

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish police killed 11 members of the outlawed Dev-Sol (Revolutionary Left) group in raids on several Istanbul apartments early Saturday, the semi-official Anatolian news agency reported.

Dev-Sol is Turkey's deadliest urban guerrilla group. It has claimed responsibility for several street killings and more than 30 bombings this year.

It said three other extremists, one wounded, were captured in the gunbattles in Istanbul's Central Nisantasi, Dikilitas and Bal-mumcu districts.

The agency said police surrounded the flats which they stormed after calls for the extremists to surrender were met with volleys of shots.

The fighting lasted for about three hours, the agency said, adding that police used smoke bombs, tear-gas and high-explosives during the assaults.

Turkish police have stepped up investigations into the activities of Dev-Sol in Istanbul during the past six weeks following a string of bombing claimed by the shadowy group.

Police said guns and ammunition, documents, police and army uniforms were seized in the raids.

Security officials believe Dev-Sol has less than 100 active members. This year the group has claimed responsibility for the murders of four army generals, two intelligence men, a military prosecutor, and policemen in Istanbul, Ankara and Adana.

Dev-Sol was spawned by Dev-Genc (Revolutionary Youth), a militant leftist group formed in the late 1960s.

Following the military coup in 1980, 1,200 Dev-Sol members were arrested and charged with trying to overthrow the state. More than 300 were sentenced to death.

Dev-Sol is said to have a death-list of officials it accuses of torturing leftist militants during the three years of army rule after the coup.

During the U.S.-led Gulf war against Iraq, the group said it was behind some 20 bomb attacks against Western interests in Turkey and admitted the murder of a American civilian customs officer in Adana and the wounding of a U.S. colonel in Izmir.

In March, it claimed responsibility for killing of an American businessman in Istanbul.

Kurds protest killing

Thousands of local Kurds blocked a main highway near the southeastern town of Cizre Saturday to protest the killing of a Kurdish politician and the police violence at his funeral.

About 4,000 people, including women and children, blocked the road 35 kilometres west of Cizre for two hours in the morning until Turkish security forces arrived.

Hundreds of trucks were backed up on the road, including 28 Italian trucks on their way from northern Iraq, where they form part of the multinational force guarding Iraqi Kurds.

The protesters chanted "Long Live Kurdistan" and "We won't forget our martyrdoms" before they dispersed peacefully.

Senators dispute Glaspie's version of talks with Saddam, say she misled Congress

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Secret cables show that former U.S. Ambassador to Iraq April Glaspie did not take the stern approach she has since claimed when she met with President Saddam Hussein a week before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, two senators said Friday.

Sen. Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, complained in a letter to Secretary of State James Baker that at no point in Ms. Glaspie's cables to her superiors did she report "clearly delivering the kind of warning," to the Iraqi president that she subsequently described to Congress.

Sen. Alan Cranston said Ms. Glaspie "deliberately misled Congress and the country" about her meeting with President Saddam. He said the cables raise "broad and troubling questions about the administration's willingness to be a party to false statements to Congress."

Mr. Pell and Mr. Cranston said they were not at liberty to discuss the cables publicly. But a story in Friday's edition of the Washington Post said Ms. Glaspie repeatedly stressed to the Iraqi leader that President George Bush wanted to improve relations with Iraq and did not want a confrontation. The Post account was based on leaked copies of the cables.

Mr. Pell said he believes that the American people "are entitled to know that the statements made by the ambassador to the (Senate) Foreign Relations Committee are not supported" by her cables at the time.

Mr. Pell asked for an explanation as to why "no effort was made to correct the public record."

He said the title of Ms. Glaspie's cable reporting on her July 25 meeting with the Iraqi leader, "Saddam's message of friendship to President Bush," reflected the overall tone of the secret document.

The State Department had no immediate comment on Mr. Pell's allegations. A department official said Ms. Glaspie, who

run schools unwelcome — Kuwait

school with the name of Feb. 25, the country's national day, became Aug. 2, to celebrate Iraq's invasion.

The minister said out of 136,000 non-Kuwaiti students registered in public schools before the invasion, only 46,000 stayed in the country. Not all of them enrolled.

The minister told Al Qabas that 2,400 of the dismissed employees were Palestinians, 800 were Jordanians, 400 were Iraqis and the rest from other Arab nationalities. Kuwaiti parents frequently say they do not want teachers from those countries instructing their children.

He added that the ministry will depend on its Kuwaiti teachers in addition to 6,000 of its former teachers from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Morocco when schools reopen in August. The year will be an intensive one, with the next year to start in February,

to make up for time lost during the invasion.

The minister told the paper that salary lists left behind by the Iraqis were not enough evidence to prove that a teacher worked, because the Iraqis used to draw up lists to "steal" government money in teachers' names.

In June a martial law court sentenced a Palestinian teacher to death for working as principal of Tulaifila Girl's High School during the occupation.

Hamda Younis, 55, was accused of delivering pro-Iraq and anti-Kuwait speeches to students, and girls who went to her high-school appeared jubilant at the occupation in an interview filmed at the school and shown on Iraqi television.

But Mr. Hamda's sentence was reduced to life imprisonment when the crown prince commuted all death sentences on June 26, the last day of martial law.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Aga Khan visits Shiite leader

BAGHDAD (AP) — Prince Sadraddin Aga Khan, a special U.N. envoy for the Gulf, said Friday he had visited Iran's most senior Shiite spiritual leader, who has been reported under house arrest since March. Prince Sadraddin told a news conference he had a long private meeting with Grand Ayatollah Abdul Qasem Ali Khoei during a visit to the Shiite city of Najaf, south of Baghdad. But he did not comment on Iranian allegations that Ayatollah Khoei has been under house arrest since spring to pressure Iraqi Shiites to end their rebellion against the Iraqi government. Troops largely crushed the uprising in March, but pockets of resistance remain. Prince Sadraddin said the 95-year-old imam was well but frail and told him that Iraqi authorities were giving him the right diet and medicines. "He is obviously concerned about his family and followers," Prince Sadraddin said. He added that Ayatollah Khoei was allowed visits from a son but was concerned to hear of news of other members of his family, some of whom were reportedly arrested by Iraqi authorities. Prince Sadraddin said he asked Baghdad for permission to visit Ayatollah Khoei in April in a personal capacity, rather than as a U.N. envoy. Prince Sadraddin, wrapping up a five-day visit to Iraq, also travelled to Karbala Friday.

TUNIS (R) — Death penalties on five Muslim activists convicted of burning to death a person confined by the ruling party's office in Tunisia have been confirmed by a high court, lawyers said Saturday. The lawyers said that following the high court's decision on Friday they asked for a meeting with President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali to request a presidential pardon. Mr. Ben Ali is known to oppose capital punishment. Since he seized power in November 1987 only one person has been executed, for the murder of 12 children. The high court confirmed the verdict of a lower court given on June 27. Seven other activists were jailed for life, three to 20 years, eight to five years and one to a suspended sentence of two years. They were convicted of attacking the offices of the ruling Democratic Constitutional Assembly (RCD) in the Bab Souika district of the old city. The five condemned must first be convicted of tying up and burning alive the office guard and wounding three other people. They said the five belonged to the outlawed Nahdha al-Islamiyya fundamentalist movement and pleaded not guilty to premeditated murder. About 200 Nahdha leaders and militants, including several dozen military men, have been arrested and are to appear before a military tribunal charged with conspiring against the state.

BONN (AP) — The ministry of environment is sending a special vehicle and team of experts to study pollution damage in Kuwait from burning oil wells. The ministry said an agreement between Germany and Kuwait had been signed to carry out a detailed pollution survey. German technicians are to measure concentrations of pollutants "to determine the effects of the burning oil on the population, vegetation, the ecological system, crops and the regional climate," the statement said. The specialised vehicle is outfitted with equipment to measure concentrations of "soot particles, sulphur dioxide, hydrogen dioxide, ozone and hydrocarbons." The measurements are to be made in and around Kuwait City and as close as possible to the burning oil wells, the statement said. The project is expected to last about three months and comes under the auspices of an international programme of the World Meteorological Organisation and the World Health Organisation.

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia's interim President Meles Zenawi has said a dissident coalition can participate in future elections but must first renounce violence. Mr. Meles, whose Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) ousted the government of dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in May, said the group excluded itself from talks earlier this month on setting up a broad-based government "by refusing to renounce violence." Mr. Meles told a television panel discussion late Friday that the Washington-based Coalition of Ethiopian Democratic Forces (COEDF) would be welcome to participate in multi-party elections in two years time to replace an interim administration set up by the conference. "The only thing we ask of them is to renounce officially their war posturing," he said. The COEDF has said it wanted to attend the conference but was barred by the EPRDF. In a statement last weekend the group said the meeting, at which 24 political groups agreed to set up an interim administration ahead of the planned elections in 1993, was "designed to entrench EPRDF domination."

ATHENS (R) — Kidnappers abducted a Lebanese teenager from her holiday home in Greece Friday and demanded \$2 million ransom. But the unknown abductors later released her after the death of the housekeeper they had chloroformed, police said. Tamara Oskanian, 14, was seized after a gang broke into the family villa at Porto Rafi, east of Athens. She was later found unharmed in an area west of Greek capital. "The kidnappers were probably scared after they learned that the housekeeper died and let the girl go," a police spokesman said. Varvara Panayotidou, 55, died of respiratory and heart failure. The Oskanian family lives in Belgium. The girl had been sent to Greece for the holidays with her six-year-old sister. Their father, Kevork, a precious stones dealer, told police the kidnappers called him in Belgium asking for the ransom.

ROME (R) — The spread of the screw-worm cattle parasite in Libya has effectively ended after a programme to release millions of sterile screw-worm flies, the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) announced on Friday. Only one case of infestation had been reported since February compared with more than 13,000 cases reported up to the end of last year, it said. IFAD launched the \$2.8 million eradication programme last December, releasing millions of sterile screw-worm flies. The screw-worm, which lays its eggs in wounds on livestock, invaded North Africa from the Americas two years ago.

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00	..... Documentary
18:15	..... Le Chevalier de Ciel
19:00	..... News in French
19:15	..... Documentary
19:30	..... News in Hebrew
20:00	..... News in Arabic
20:30	..... Yeh Moshier
21:10	..... Doc.: French Services
22:00	..... News in English
22:30	..... B.L. Stryker

PRAYER TIMES

04:01	..... Fajr
05:34	..... (Sunnis) Dhuha
12:41	..... Dhuhr
16:44	..... Asr
19:30	..... Maghrib
21:21	..... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifts Tel. 810740
Assessors: 20 G Church, Tel. 637865
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terouassa Church Tel. 623266
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 685336
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811225
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623824, 645932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 975691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northeasterly light to moderate. In Agaba, winds will be neither moderate and the seas calm.

	Min/Max. temp.
Amman	20 / 23
Agaba	26 / 39
Djirfa	21 / 37
Yrbu	21 / 37

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 35, Aqaba 39, Humidity readings: Amman 21 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
 Dr. Bassam Al Oudoudani 646024
 Dr. Khalil Al Jubali 740740
 Dr. Abdul Hafiz Khawaja 791954
 Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad 846070
 First pharmacy 561012
 Ferdows pharmacy 778336
 Al Asena pharmacy 637055
 Al Naoukh pharmacy 636752
 Al Salam pharmacy 636730
 Yacoub pharmacy 644945
 Sumeciani pharmacy 637660

ERBID:
 Dr. Nelsamoud Tassni (—)
 Al Shams pharmacy 778262

ZARQA:
 Dr. Hussein Mahmoud (—)
 Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
 Civil Defence Department 661111
 Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341
 Civil Defence Emergency 199
 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
 Fire Brigade 891228
 Blood Bank 775121
 Highway Police 843402
 Traffic Police 896390
 Public Security Department 630321
 Hotel Complaints 605880
 Price Complaints 661176
 Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467
 Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
 Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
 Overseas Calls 010230
 Central Amman Telephone 896115

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
 Jordan Television 773111
 Radio Jordan 774111
 Water Authority 680100
 Jordan Electricity Authority 815015
 Electric Power Company 636381
 RU Flight Information 68-53200
 Queen Alia Intl. Airport 68-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
 Hussein Medical Centre 813813/352
 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
 Akken Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
 Pediatric Hospital, Amman 645652
 Maisha, J. Amman 636140
 Palestine, Shmeisani 664711/4
 Shmeisani Hospital 669131
 University Hospital 845845
 Al-Musaber Hospital 667221/9
 The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
 Islamic, Al-Muhajir 777101/2
 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 775111/26
 Army, Marka 896115/15

Amaal Hospital 674111
 ZARQA:
 Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)9831
 Zarqa National Hospital (09)9001
 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)9801
 ERBD:
 Princess Basma Hospital (02)2771
 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)2771
 St. George's Hospital (02)2741
 AQABA:
 Princess Haya Hospital (03)3141

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by R. Jordanian (RU) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (00)3302, where should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:30	Jeddah (RJ)	13:40	Tripoli (LN)
10:45	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	19:15	Larnaca (CY)
10:50	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)		
10:50	Cairo (RJ)		
10:25	Istanbul (RJ)		
11:10	Paris, Geneva (RJ)		
11:50	Madrid, Rome (RJ)		
11:25	Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)		
20:30	London, Brussels (RJ)		

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
12:40	Tripoli (LN)
18:30	Larnaca (CY)
20:35	Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights	
(Terminal 1)	
12:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:40	Istanbul (RJ)
14:00	Cairo (RJ)
20:15	Aqaba (RJ)
20:30	Dhahran (RJ)
21:00	Riyadh (RJ)
21:15	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:15	Dammam (RJ)
21:30	Bangkok, Singapore (RJ)
22:30	Jeddah, Sanaa (RJ)
22:45	Bangkok (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
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MARKET PRICES	
<i>Upward arrow price is \$/lb per kg.</i>	
Apple	550 / 20
Apricots	500 / 40
Bananas	300 / 450
Banana (Malaysian)	300 / 450
Beans	530 / 240
Cabbage	120 / 50
Cauliflower	150 / 120
Corn	160 / 120
Corn	160 / 120
Cucumbers (large)	120 / 80
Cucumbers (small)	200 / 120
Eggplant	160 / 120
Garlic	730 / 650
Grapes	300 / 250
Leeks	300 / 250
Lemons	380 / 300
Marrow (large)	120 / 80
Marrow (small)	270 / 220
Onion	160 / 120
Onion (dry)	160 / 120
Orange	400 / 320
Papaya	400 / 320
Pineapples	400 / 320
Pepper (hot)	200 / 160
Pepper (sweet)	220 / 150

Gunfire deaths higher in 1990; government urges citizens to use caution in handling firearms

AMMAN (J.T.) — Records at the Criminal Investigation Department reveal that 312 cases of shooting were recorded in 1990, against 224 in 1989, accounting for the death of 27 people and the injury of 211 others.

According to these records, 84 cases occurred during weddings, resulting in the death of four people and the injury of 35 others during 1990.

As of June 25, a total of 45 firing cases were recorded resulting in the death of two persons and the injury of 24 others in 1991. The last of these incidents occurred during a wedding earlier this month that resulted in the death of the bridegroom.

According to Brigadier Abdul Karim Tarawneh, the department director, the police plan to propose a new draft law imposing stricter penalties on people who use firearms without reason. Also to be introduced will be new

measures governing the possession of firearms so as to curtail the incidents in Jordan which, he said, are causing a large number of deaths and injuries to innocent people.

Brig. Tarawneh was quoted by Al-Dustour Arabic daily as saying that Jordanian citizens are allowed to possess firearms and the Public Security Department (PSD) normally offers them a licence for that, free of charge, provided the firearms are kept at home, or are carried only during travel.

The PSD also, offers licences to citizens wishing to carry their weapons outside the city boundaries provided they renew the licence annually for a fee, Brig. Tarawneh said.

"Like all other societies of the world, crimes in which firearms are used occur in Jordan, but the country remains free of organised crime," he said.

He added that the police in Jordan normally solve 85 per cent of the total number of crimes whether they involve fire arms or not.

Referring to the practice of shooting into the air during weddings, he said this tradition has been followed in Jordan for ages and it is believed to be an expression of rejoicing over the happy occasion. This, he added, is a very wrong and dangerous concept that should be changed because firing can only result in the loss of life.

According to a PSD bulletin, the governorate of Irbid accounted for 25 firing incidents during weddings in 1990, causing the death of three persons and the injury of 16 others. It was followed by Amman, where 19 incidents were recorded over the past year. Fewer incidents occurred in Balqa, Karak, Maan, Zarqa, Tafleh, Aqaba, Madaba and Mafrag.

King condoles Al Majali family

KARAK (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Saturday went to Al Yarout village near here and visited Al Majali family to offer condolences on the death of the late Abdul Wahab Al Majali.

The late Mr. Majali, who died Thursday in Amman, was laid to rest in his home village Friday. The funeral was attended by the King's representative, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament and deputies and representatives of various organisations.

The deceased had served in a number of prominent posts, including that of deputy prime minister, minister of education and as a member of Parliament.

Seminar urges Arab, Islamic cooperation to ensure socio-economic development

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day seminar on "Development from an Islamic perspective" ended in Amman Saturday with the participants issuing a set of recommendations that call on the Arab and Islamic nations to cooperate to ensure food security and provide proper means for socio-economic development.

"In light of the need to ensure the required resources for sustainable development in the Arab and Islamic worlds and in light of the formation of major world economic blocs, Islamic states should embark on a meaningful programme to better utilise their potentials and cooperate towards the fulfilment of the aspired goals," said a communique issued at the end of the meetings.

The seminar appealed to the concerned authorities in the Islamic World to develop appropriate financial tools facilitating the smooth flow of capital among Arab and Islamic states so as to contribute towards intrinsic development and curtail borrowing from foreign sources.

Referring to projects, the communique called on the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to provide funds for investment projects in the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

With reference to food security, the communique recommended increased efforts and extra care to be directed towards agricultural production and livestock wealth as well as food processing industries, benefiting from the resources available in Islamic states.

According to the communique, the seminar supported a call by OIC to establish a food security reserve so as to provide needy Islamic countries with food in times of need.

Referring to the debt issue, the seminar stressed the need for coordination among the Islamic states to find proper solutions for their debts and called on researchers, scientists and economists to help attain that goal.

The seminar called on Islamic countries to give due attention to

the development of the functions of Islamic banks and to establish a special Islamic Monetary Fund to operate in accordance with Islamic laws. Such a fund, the communique said, can assume the task of helping Islamic countries adjust their balances of payments and enable them to conduct a better evaluation of their financial systems.

The seminar also recommended the establishment of a special financial body to deal with zakat (alms to the poor) so that more money can be spent on less developed Muslim countries and needy Islamic societies.

It also called for reducing consumption at the government and individual levels and to enable Islamic societies to display social solidarity conducive to the creation of a strong and well-balanced and stable society in the Islamic World.

Referring to the youth, the seminar urged the concerned authorities to mobilise the young people's potentials to serve eco-

nomic development, aided by well-planned informational and educational programmes.

The seminar appealed to various educational and informational agencies in Islamic countries, including the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO), to help propagate Islamic methods in development.

The seminar urged Arab and Islamic countries to finance development projects in Arab lands under Israeli occupation with a view to further enhancing the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in confronting the Zionist occupation.

The seminar urged universities and higher institutions in the Arab and Islamic worlds to adopt Arabic as the main teaching language in the field of development from an Islamic perspective.

The three-day seminar was organised by the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Bayt Foundation) in cooperation with ISESCO and the Islamic Development Bank.

Arab-American scholar to write book on Jordan's foreign policy

By Nidal M. Ibrahim
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's foreign policy is quite often a function of a variety of internal and external factors, not all of which the Kingdom has much control over, according to a leading American scholar, who is in the process of writing a book on the subject.

In the book, which will analyse the many facets that make up Jordanian foreign policy, Dr. Emil F. Sahliyeah discusses Jordan's geopolitical vulnerability, demographic makeup, position in the peace process and other factors as major determinants of its relations with other nations.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Sahliyeah — an associate political science professor at the University of North Texas, U.S. — said Jordan's foreign policy is as much affected by as it affects the foreign policies of other states.

In Jordan to conduct interviews with various officials as research for his upcoming book, Dr. Sahliyeah discussed the various aspects of his research, which is not expected to be published for another year or so. However, the Arab-American scholar, who was born in Jerusalem in 1945 and now makes his home in Denton, Texas, declined to discuss in detail the initial impressions he has formed from the interviews he has completed with leading Jordanian government leaders and intellectuals.

Among those interviewed by Dr. Sahliyeah are the political adviser to the King, a former foreign minister, a former chief of the Royal Court, a former minister and other officials.

Describing the interviews with the officials, he said: "I'm very impressed by the people that I talked to. I think they are all very intelligent and are very much aware of what is going on in the outside world. They have a very sophisticated view of the world and of Jordanian foreign policy interests."

Jordan's lack of economic resources is a major determinant in how it conducts relations with other nations, Dr. Sahliyeah said. Specifically, the lack of a major export base such as oil or crops places the Kingdom in a somewhat fragile position, he said.

"It means Jordan is dependent on outside states and if so, then how is this reflected in terms of Jordan's ability to act independently?" Dr. Sahliyeah asks. "Because when you are dependent on outsiders, how can you afford to pursue an independent foreign policy? That's the type of thing that I am in the process of investigating."

Another factor in Jordanian foreign policy to be addressed will be its geographical position between states with strong militaries, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

Having borders with Syria on the north, Israel on the west and Iraq on the east places Jordan in a sensitive situation. In effect, the Kingdom acts as a buffer for these states, which are at times hostile towards each other, he said.

This situation also works to Jordan's favour as hostile action towards the Kingdom by any one of these nations would be viewed by the others as a threat to their national security. This inhibits Jordan's neighbours from taking an overly aggressive stance towards the Kingdom, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

The country's demographic makeup also strongly influences the policies Jordan pursues across the world. Specifically, the book will seek to address how Jordan's Palestinian "majority" affects its stance towards other countries and issues, especially Israel and the peace process, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

Yet another factor to be considered will be the belief system of policy-makers. Included in this broad category will be how leaders view the world, politics, Jordan's neighbours, the Kingdom's role in regional and international affairs and the way they perceive things, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

Jordanian foreign policy is also sure to be affected by the recent democratisation process the country is undergoing, which will result in a more active parliament, Dr. Sahliyeah said. "I'm sure there will be more debate about the foreign policy of Jordan," he said.

Other factors, which Dr. Sahliyeah called "external factors," will also influence the Kingdom's foreign policy. Among these will be movements that affect the entire

region and the foreign policies of many of the area's nations, like pan-Arabism and Muslim fundamentalism. Such sweeping movements do not necessarily afford the leadership much control and may, to a great degree, direct Jordanian and other countries' foreign policy, he said.

Another factor that might have widespread consequences could be Israel's diminished importance in the aftermath of the Gulf war and how that will shape U.S. foreign policy and its effect on Jordan, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

The end of the cold war, Israel's insignificance as a strategic ally during the Gulf war and the fact that the United States can now depend on Arabs to fight Arabs if necessary (as proven when Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia joined the allies against Iraq), all contribute to Israel's diminished importance as an ally in the Middle East, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

"These are all positive developments that in the long run are suggestive of a possibility of resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict diplomatically," he said.

Another by-product of the Gulf war was the stark realisation that the United States, despite being the pre-eminent world power, could not carry out its policies without the help of an international coalition, Dr. Sahliyeah said. Despite its military capabilities, the United States needed countries such as Germany and Japan to underwrite their buildup in the Middle East.

This, coupled with the more prominent role of the United Nations and its members, suggest a greater role for states such as Jordan and Japan in affecting international developments, Dr. Sahliyeah said.

Arab unity urged at Dawa symposium

TRIPOLI (Petra) — Jordan is participating in an Islamic symposium held by the Libya-based Dawa Society to mark 15 centuries, since the death of the Prophet Mohammad.

In the two-day session participants discuss nine working papers

submitted by scholars and university professors related to the Islamic faith and its effect on Muslims' culture.

One of the participants addressed the opening session Saturday urging Muslims to unify their ranks and face the foreign ideological invasion by cultures hostile to Islam and to foil all conspiracies being hatched against the Islamic Nation.

Dr. Mohammad Al Sharif criticised scholars and religious leaders in the Islamic world for their contradictory ifta (Islamic formal opinion) during the Gulf crisis.

The Tripoli-based Dawa, which was founded in 1972, aims at propagating Islam around the world and at presenting the Islamic faith in its proper perspective. The society also seeks to encourage the use of Arabic, because it is the language of the Holy Koran, and to inform the world about Islam and the works of Prophet Mohammad.

Jordan celebrates new Hijra year

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Raef Naqaf attended Saturday a ceremony held by the ministry at Al Hussein Mosque in Amman on the occasion of the new Hijra year.

After the ceremony, which started by reciting Koranic verses, Mr. Naqaf delivered a speech reviewing Prophet Mohammad's journey from Mecca to Medina to escape persecution.

Senator Akram Zu'aitir, chairman of the Royal Commission for Jerusalem Affairs, delivered an address on the historic impact of Al Hijra on Muslims in particular and humanity in general.

Senator Ishaq Al Farhan also delivered a speech in which he called on Muslims to benefit from the lessons of Al Hijra to take a leading role in building a new world order built on the principles of Islam.

Dr. Farhan urged the Muslims to pride themselves in their religion and its values.

The ceremony was attended by several officials and a large number of citizens.

'250 journalists were deliberately killed while on mission over the past two years'

IOJ, JPA discuss role of press

By Odeh Odeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A two-member team representing the International Organisation of Journalists (IOJ) is meeting Sunday with the President of the Jordanian Press Association (JPA) Hashem Khreizat and association board members to discuss matters related to the work of journalists worldwide.

Mazen Hussein, who is IOJ deputy secretary general, and Mahmoud Ali, who is in charge of the Arab desk at the Prague-based organisation, are also scheduled to meet Prime Minister Taher Masi and Foreign Minister Abdullah Ensour to discuss their organisation's role in promoting journalists' work worldwide.

Talks with the JPA will centre on journalists' duties and the risks they are faced with while carrying out their duties, according to a JPA official.

In a statement to Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, Mr. Hussein said that journalists are exposed to severe treatment at the hands of totalitarian regimes and countries that do not wish to expose the truth about matters related to freedoms.

At least 250 journalists were deliberately killed while working in a number of countries over the past two years, Mr. Hussein said.

The plight of journalists and the topics on the agenda of a general IOJ conference, which will be held in Sanaa, Yemen, in November, will be among the

topics for discussion during the team's week-long stay in Jordan.

Both Mr. Hussein and Mr. Ali paid tribute to the governments of Yemen and Jordan for offering journalists facilities to carry out their duties.

Mr. Ali said that the organisation had recently sent a team to the occupied Arab territories and submitted a report to its headquarters condemning the repression of Arab journalists in occupied Palestine and the restrictions imposed on them and on foreign journalists by the Israeli authorities.

Mr. Hussein said that thousands of journalists, representing nearly one quarter million IOJ members, were expected to take part in the Sanaa meeting.

Amman gas turbines to be moved to Al Rishah

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) is expected to finalise moves to transfer two of its gas turbines from south of Amman to Al Rishah gas fields near the border this month, industry sources say.

The decision to move the turbines, each with a capacity of 30 megawatts, was taken last year after the discovery of high deposits of gas at Al Rishah. Tenders were invited for the process. However, no contract has yet been awarded since some of the offers were "exorbitantly high," according to a source close to the affair.

"In at least two cases, the offer to transfer the turbines was more than the actual cost of the gener-

ators," said the source. The turbines are currently situated at Al Muqableh, south of Amman.

The financial feasibility of piping Al Rishah gas to other points in Jordan has not been clearly established.

Senior JEA officials are visiting Italy with a view to closing a deal under which Italian expertise will be used for the re-siting of the generators.

It is not known whether an Italian company will be given an outright contract to move the turbines or Italian experts will be contracted by the JEA. The project will be partly financed by loans from Arab lending agencies.

With the completion of the planned transfer of the generating facility to Al Rishah, Jordan would be saving around \$30 mil-

lion annually in energy import bills, with Al Rishah-generated electricity accounting for around 25 per cent of all JEA output.

Two 30-megawatt turbines are already generating power using Al Rishah gas and feeding the national power grid. They went on stream in May 1989, and their daily consumption of gas is around two million cubic metres.

According to Dr. Kamal Jreizat, head of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), it has been established that the total reserves at Al Rishah are a minimum of around 11,000 million cubic metres — enough to feed four 30-megawatt generators for over seven years.

"The gas fields are running inwards into Jordanian territory, and this has given great encouragement since earlier predic-

tions had said that the main gas deposits were in Iraqi territory," said an international expert familiar with the project at Al Rishah, which lies close to the Jordanian-Iraqi border.

The JEA is also contemplating a proposal to buy two additional 30-megawatt gas turbines, but a decision will be taken only after the two Amman generators are moved to Al Rishah.

The discovery of gas at Al Rishah has prompted the JEA to freeze a \$300 million project to expand production at the Aqaba Thermal Power Station, which has an installed capacity of 130 megawatts. "It is doubtful that the project will be revived soon," said a JEA source in January this year. "The entire focus is now shifted how to make best use of Al Rishah gas."

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Seminar to review ESCWA's work

AMMAN (Petra) — The executive secretary general of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), and the under secretary general of the U.N., Dr. Taher Abdul Jabbar, will hold a press conference next Wednesday at the Plaza Hotel in Amman. Dr. Abdul Jabbar will outline the general features of the present stage for ESCWA's work and will review the economic and social developments in the region and their impact on ESCWA's work in the coming period.

Community college students sit for exams

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 21,979 students from Jordan are currently taking the general comprehensive examinations for community college students. The examinations started Thursday. A total of 243 examination halls were allocated for students taking the examinations. Head of the Ministry of Education's Examinations Section Mustafa Adwan said the theoretical part of the examinations would end on July 22, while the practical examinations would start on July 25. Dr. Adwan added that correction of examination papers would begin on July 16. He said that five correction centres were established, including a centre in Irbid, which will be open for the first time.

إجهزة كمبيوتر متوافقة مع أي بي إم IBM

١. صيانة أجهزة الكمبيوتر

٢. توابع أجهزة كمبيوتر

٣. حزم برامج كمبيوتر

٤. حزم برامج جاهزة

٥. حزم برامج متخصصة في مجالات عديدة

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تلفون ٨١١٦٦٣ ص.ب. ٧٩٢٧ عمان - الأردن

By Dr. Fahd Al Fanek

Jordan Times

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Change is due

PRIME MINISTER Taher Masri's policy statement to Parliament on Thursday has received mixed reactions from the public and politicians. While some people would have liked it to have been stronger and inclusive of more specifics, others thought it was overambitious and the programmes outlined in it difficult to achieve.

In all cases, the statement was more or less typical of all new governments' statements, and traditional in that it identified problems and left much to be desired about actual and practical solutions.

Apart from its pledges to enhance democratisation, a process that is propelling itself will, the government's programme failed to present a new and comprehensive vision to solve the country's major political problems or economic ills. It even fell short of identifying state bureaucracy as the major obstacle to making progress in every aspect of the country's life. In education, for example, it set for itself a task whose accomplishment is difficult to foresee. If the government intends to fulfil the objective of providing all classrooms with computers within ten years, then it needs a budget that is nowhere to be found in government books.

In any event, traditional methods will not do. Although some might contend that the age of revolutions is over, only some sort of a visionary outlook could save us from our difficult problems. If we continue to be daunted by the task of reforming the public sector for tribal or other reasons, we will not see any reforms succeeding in any area, be it the economy, education, industry or whatever. Unless we divert funds from where they are squandered for no good reason at all to where they are most needed, the country will continue to suffer from inaction and decline. Our problems have generally been compounded by previous governments' failure to address basic issues like education and employment. The economy especially, health, tourism and industry will all function beautifully once the public sector is reformed and strengthened and education is taken more seriously. It is regrettable that despite the lessons learned, or unlearned, from the Gulf war, we still cling to Arab reconciliation, Arab aid and Arab markets for the export of Jordanian labour. These policies have proven futile even before the Gulf war.

At the Arab summit in Baghdad Jordan pleaded for Arab aid which did not materialise; should we now expect the situation to be better? Even on democratisation, the government's statement was not very forthcoming. Instead, it talked about developing and strengthening existing legislation and improving the work of over-bureaucratic departments, like the Water Authority.

In sum, Thursday's statement can be described as neither revolutionary nor anything else. At best it keeps the tradition. Alas, traditional methods and means do not treat modern ills. Unless all wrong trends in all aspects of state life are reassessed, stopped and reversed, the decline will continue as governments come and go. The disease is not in people, ministers, or prime ministers. It is in inaction and empty rhetoric that have been snowballing for decades. Unless truly visionary and more fundamental changes are made, the status quo will remain.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily focused attention on clear signs coming from Washington which, it said, is bent on weakening the Arab Nation's military power. It said that America's open decision to strike against Iraqi targets, its plans to station rapid deployment forces in Turkey and its call on the Arabs to offer concessions if they are to have peace with Israel are all clear indications of Washington's evil intentions harboured against the Arabs. Furthermore, the U.S. administration is not interested in implementing the international legitimacy with regard to the Palestine question and is openly exercising pressure on Syria to accept Washington's proposals concerning a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper pointed out. America's threat to launch a new aggression against Iraq is clearly intended to destroy whatever remained of the Iraqi military power, at a time when the U.S. continues to supply Israel's arsenal with the latest mass destruction and conventional weapons, the paper added. These threats to the Arabs are coupled with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's intended proposal to European Community countries concerning trade so as to break the current Arab boycott of Israeli goods, the paper said. It said that these ominous signs leave the Arab countries face to face with only one option if they really intend to survive and that is to heal the rifts in their ranks and opt for real solidarity.

A columnist in Al Dustour daily Saturday focused attention on the new government's policy statement delivered to parliament by Prime Minister Taher Masri. Mazen Hammad said that the policy statement presented all that could be presented about the country's foreign and domestic policies. What else do those who advocate no confidence in the new government wish to hear, do they want a war government or a national government without national unity? asked the writer. This government he noted is clearly committed to the Constitution and the National Charter and it is maintaining and upholding Jordan's clear principles and policies with regard to the liberation of the usurped lands in Palestine has committed itself to deal with the questions of unemployment and the soaring cost of living as well as the national economy. He said that the government, faced with very meagre resources, strained relations with the Arab countries, a weak Arab World and many other challenges, has no option but to present the ideas contained in the policy statement which the deputies heard from Mr. Masri Thursday. Those who oppose the new government, could not have expected from Mr. Masri to issue an ultimatum to Israel to withdraw from the occupied lands or declare that it intends to double the salaries of the government civil servants, the writer said.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Arab development - problems and solutions

DURING the forties and fifties of this century, conventional wisdom among Arab thinkers had it that the Arab World was a single national entity, superficially divided by the colonial powers, and that it will be united in a federation or confederation as soon as it gained independence from those powers. The Arab League, established in 1945, was seen as a step in that direction.

Since then things gradually changed. With time the nation-states in the Arab World gathered strength and legitimacy. But all those states continued to behave and act as members in an overall Arab order, symbolised by the Arab League and its joint Arab institutions. The Arab World continued to be an indigenous region, sharing similar characteristics and development orientations, with deep and organic connections and a varying degree of cooperation within the framework of inter-Arab organisations, led by the annual Arab summit conference which became an institution.

The 1980 Arab summit conference held in Amman ushered in and put the foundation for the Arab Development Decade and adopted a plan to help the less developed Arab economies. The decade of the eighties did not bring about real development, it was later described as another lost decade in modern Arab history.

The failure of the Arab economic development plan, which was approved in Amman at the level of the heads of Arab states revealed that some major insurmountable problems and obstacles must have been there hindering joint Arab economic cooperation and development. Among those problems and obstacles, one can identify the following:

1. The uneven division of human and financial resources. Countries with huge oil wealth and low density of population preferred to raise the degree of cooperation among themselves and lower it with the other financially deprived countries.
2. The lack of political leadership at the pan-Arab level, after the defeat of 1967 at the hands of Israel and the death of Gamal

Abdul Nasser. Since then, and especially following the 1973/1974 oil boom, the centre of power shifted from Egypt. Financial power centred east in the Gulf states which could not exert any meaningful role of Arab leadership.

3. The Arab states were governed by three different economic and social regimes: One radical and socialist with public sector domination, such as Syria and Iraq; another traditional but also with public sector domination such as the Gulf states; and a liberal third with market economy orientation centred on the private sector, such as Jordan and Tunis. Egypt was in a transitional period.

Cooperation in trade became extremely difficult and the Arab common market was no more than an empty slogan. Inter-Arab trade declined to only 6.5 per cent of total Arab international trade.

For the first time, liberalisation of the Arab economies is becoming a unifying force. Practically all Arab countries are now in the process of privatisation resorting to market economy. The private sector may succeed where the public sector failed. Private sector businessmen will no doubt re-discover the virtues of a large Arab market and integrated economies. The failure of Arab economic cooperation in the last two decades may not be an indication of the trend in the near future.

Cooperation in the Arab World may take many forms. Direct financial aid may not be the best way to finance development. Arab economists should demonstrate more creativity in proposing new forms of cooperation.

Arabs may for instance have a central budget financed by all Arab countries in proportion to their ability, and allocated to finance inter-Arab projects irrespective of location, such as communication, housing, transport, food production, etc.

Project financing is not new, but it may be upgraded as a form of flow of Arab capital to feasible economic projects.

Joint projects and joint ventures were always there, but only on governmental level. The private sector may be encouraged to bring together the surpluses of Arab capital, labour, and natural resources to the best location to achieve optimum results.

Custom exemptions, as agreed upon in the past, proved to be counter productive. When exemptions were made, other administrative and technical restrictions were imposed, and the volume of inter-Arab trade declined instead.

The most successful exchange of a productive factor which was allowed to move almost freely across Arab borders was labour. Human capital moved to the areas that had surplus capital. Some method should be found to encourage Arab capital as well, to move in the opposite direction to areas with surplus land and labour. Capital is supposed to be more mobile than labour.

The nation-state's self interest cannot be ignored. It should only demonstrate to decision-makers that Arab cooperation and development are not sacrifices, but rather tools in the best interest of all member states. What the 12 European states discovered in the last three decades should be highlighted as a live example to be experimented with and followed, especially when the common factors unifying the Arab World are much stronger than those uniting Europe.

Arab economic cooperation and development should not be mistaken for delinking with the rest of the world. On the contrary, in this age of interdependence and global markets, the Arabs should seek their right place in the global economy. It helps if the Arab World dealt with the external partners as one unit. The advantages obtained by the Gulf Cooperation Council with the European Community were much better than those a single state like Qatar could have obtained, but they could be much better if the EC were striking an agreement with the whole Arab region.

Interdependence should not be mixed up with dependency. The closure of the European fortress should work as an incentive for the North African countries to look east and seek higher degree of Arab integration.

Bush to push Middle East arms control at G7 summit

By Alan Elsner
Reuters

WASHINGTON — President George Bush is anxious to inject some momentum into his plan for Middle East arms control at next week's summit of seven industrial nations, but progress may be limited because of flaws in the proposal, analysts said.

Mr. Bush unveiled his blueprint on May 29 after months of agonising within his administration over what it should contain. The final product was praised as a step in the right direction, though many said it did not go far enough.

The idea was to seize the moment provided by the Gulf war victory and to drive home the lesson that a nation like Iraq should never again be permitted to build up the fourth largest military machine in the world. But Mr. Bush rejected calls from Congress for a temporary freeze on all arms sales to launch the initiative.

"President Bush's long-awaited Middle East arms control initiative emerged as an unusually vague and contradictory concoction," said Spurgeon Keeny, president of the liberal Arms Control Association, a Washington think-tank.

Keeny and others immediately pointed to the major contradiction — that Mr. Bush, while seeking to limit arms sales to the Middle East after the Gulf war, felt the need to assure U.S. allies that Washington would continue to look after their "legitimate defence needs."

The fact that only a day after he unveiled the proposals, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney was

announcing new arms sales to Israel underlined this central unanswered question — who would decide which arms transfer was designed to meet "legitimate defence needs" and which was not?

Mr. Bush envisaged "supplier guidelines" on conventional arms exports, barriers to exports that contributed to weapons of mass destruction, a freeze and later a ban on surface-to-surface missiles in the region and a ban on the production of nuclear weapons material.

His main focus was to win the agreement of the other four members of the U.N. Security Council's permanent five — the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China — before extending the restraint further to other major arms suppliers.

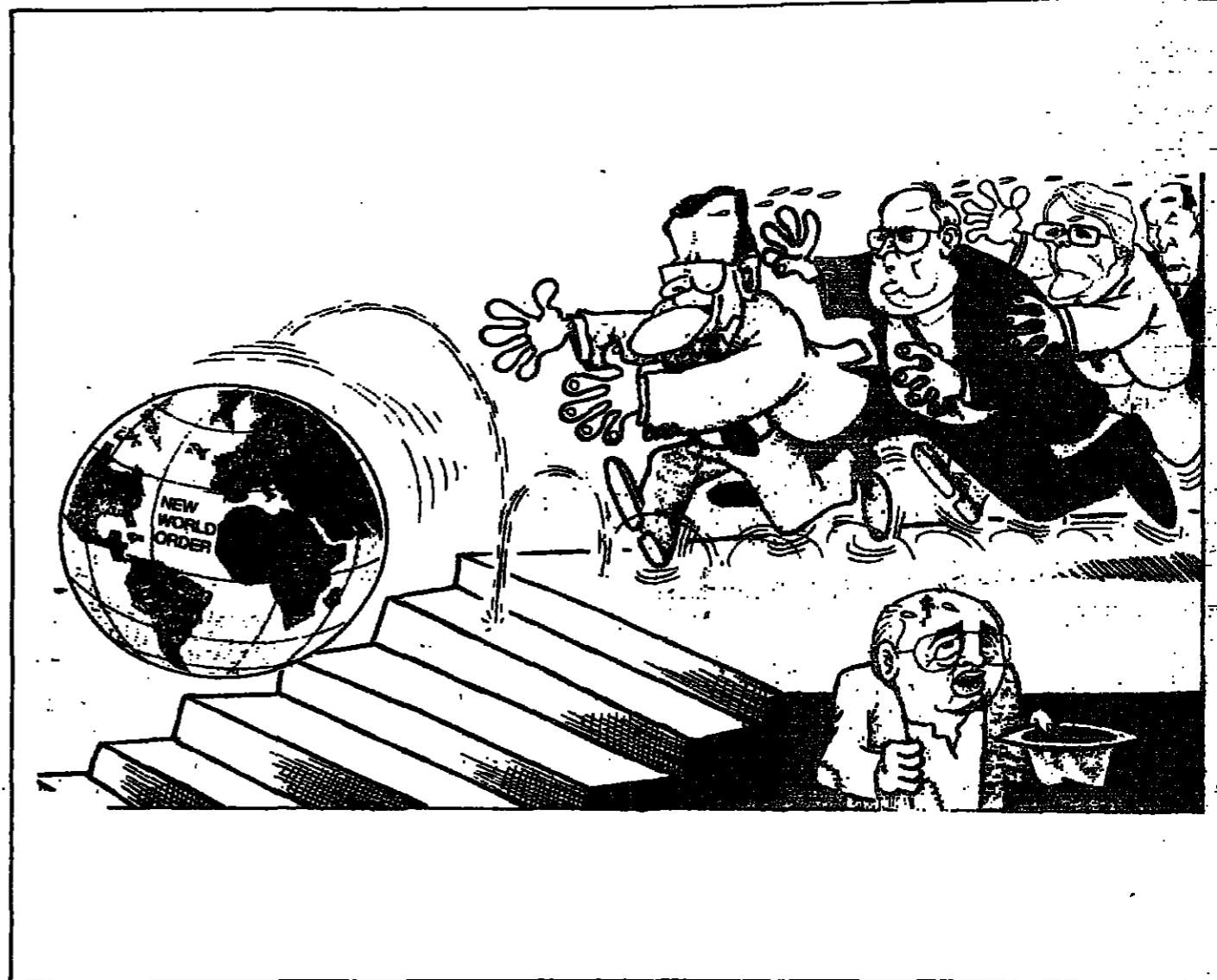
Officials from the "perm five" met in Paris this week for a preliminary discussion on the initiative.

In London, Mr. Bush may find that most enthusiasm for his proposals comes from summit partners among the seven who are not in the "perm five" like Germany, Japan and Canada. They, arguably, have the least to lose from the idea.

But diplomatic sources in London said Britain, as host of the summit, was pressing for an arms control declaration calling for nuclear non-proliferation and restraint in sales of conventional arms to the Third World.

"It is fairly certain there will be a declaration of some variety on arms control, probably a separate declaration issued at the same time as the political communiqué," one source said.

"The aim is to give a clear, strong political signal from the G7 leaders of the importance of



the subject," one said.

British Prime Minister John Major has proposed a U.N. register on conventional arms transfers to unstable regions of the world, a proposal backed by the European Community at last month's Luxembourg summit.

The French officials said this week they had qualms about the G7 taking the lead on conventional arms control because they feared that Third World exporters would be left out and the U.N. undercut.

Japan, which does not itself export arms though it does sell components that can be used in

weapons, has given notice of its intention to table a detailed plan that would for the first time require nations to report all arms sales and imports so that they could be internationally monitored.

A Canadian official said, after recent talks between Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, that both countries wanted to see "adequate decisions" on arms control at the summit.

But China, which will not be represented at the London meeting, has said arms sales limitations should be linked to Middle

East peace moves and should end military imbalances in the Middle East.

Representative Les Aspin, the influential Democrat who chairs the House Armed Services Committee, believes the United States has a unique opportunity to promote Middle East arms control but very little time to act on it.

"I do not believe that further arms sales can guarantee the security of states in the region," he said, pointing to the fact that over \$60 billion in past arms sales to Saudi Arabia could not protect it against the threat from Iraq.

At this point, fast dwindling postwar idealism comes in against the hard economic facts of life.

The United States acknowledges that foreign sales are not to assure the long-term survival of several major programmes including the M1A1 Abrams tank and the Blackhawk helicopter.

French arms sales last year rose 70 per cent of \$5.5 billion over 60 per cent going to the Middle East.

Britain also has a large defence industry to protect and says it is ever agreed must not prejudice its interests.

Seeing reality in the Middle East

By James M. Wall

The following article is reprinted from the May 1 issue of the Christian Century.

DESCRIBING HIS intense desire to convey his vision to others, novelist Joseph Conrad wrote of his ambition "by the power of the written word to make you hear, to make you feel — it is, before all, to make you see. That — and no more, and it is everything." This celebrated passage came to mind when I received a letter from an evangelical colleague lamenting the absence of deep faith and offering to set me straight regarding the need to confront tyranny whenever it appears. He contended that I have allowed my concern for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to cloud my judgement on Saddam Hussein's brutal invasion of Kuwait. Missing from this concern, he feels, is deep faith's certainty about the reality of evil.

A veteran of the Vietnam conflict, my critic wanted me to remember that not every military engagement is automatically wrong and not every effort to curtail aggression is an act of

American hegemony. Indeed, he argued, an enemy like Saddam Hussein is made to order for an American military response. If Saddam isn't worth a military response, who is? If not now, when?

It is good to be reminded that too sharp a focus on one set of problems can cause nearsightedness about other problems. The issue is, finally, how we "see" a reality which is clear to us but seemingly ignored by others.

Which led me to write back that my evangelical friend may have his own problem of focus. He was so concerned to correct a short-term, tangible evil that he — along with most Americans — was willing to overlook the way in which the U.S. has contributed to the political instability in the Middle East.

I wanted my correspondent to consider that while the war we fought in the Gulf did "solve" the immediate problem of rescuing the Kuwaiti people from a brutal occupation, it did not solve the larger issue of human rights in the region. Instead, it created more problems, including what is now emerging as a tougher stance from Israel in dealing with the

Palestinians. Buoyed by world acclaim for its "restraint" in the face of Scud attacks, Israel now appears further away than ever from a negotiated settlement with the Palestinians that would guarantee Israel's security and remove the burden of military occupation from both the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Secretary of State James Baker — who, we should not forget, was not an ardent advocate of President Bush's military policy in the Gulf — is currently travelling the Middle East circuit in search of yet another formula for peace. Mr. Baker has the difficult task of presenting the U.S. as an honest broker in a region where the U.S. has just militarily crushed a major Arab Muslim state, and our tax money has helped support a military occupation for 24 years. He is dealing with Israel, which has created a Catch-22 position for the Palestinians by refusing to talk with anyone remotely related to the PLO, even though it knows that the PLO is the only entity the Palestinians look to for leadership. Indeed, after Mr. Baker met with a "PLO-approved" Palestinian delegation in East Jerusalem, its members were im-

mediately termed unacceptable by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Much to the delight of the current Israeli government, the PLO leadership cast its lot with the side doomed to lose the Gulf war. That act seemed foolish to Western observers, but to Yasser Arafat it made good sense. His people were obviously delighted to see someone stand up to Israel. To have resisted this enthusiasm would have undermined Arafat's stature with his constituency. Americans are accustomed to their own politicians who insist that on a particular issue they must go with "my people." But this same acceptance was not granted to Mr. Arafat. Nevertheless, his stance was politically costly outside the region. The political gains in world opinion which had accrued to the Palestinian cause from the three-year-old intifada were seriously eroded when Mr. Arafat aligned himself with Saddam Hussein. Mr. Shamir is using this development to reduce the circle of Palestinians he is willing to include in any conversations. He has said he will not allow any Palestinian delegation. The prime minister is there-

by dictating what constitutes legitimacy among Palestinians, a negotiating technique possible only to the side with power. To Mr. Shamir, East Jerusalem is part of a "unified" city within Israel; to permit one of its Arab residents to speak as a non-Israeli would contradict his version of reality.

The East Jerusalem ban would not only eliminate such prominent Palestinian leaders as Faisal Husseini, but it would also represent a step backward on Mr. Shamir's part. In earlier negotiations he had acceded to allowing a delegation that, through a tortured set of definitions, would have permitted West Bank figures "approved" by the PLO to participate in the talks.

Since he has a solid theological education, my correspondent is well aware that systemic evil is much harder to eradicate than overt evil; the more something is institutionalised the more it becomes a part of "reality." Israel's occupation of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights is demeaning to both sides, but American taxpayers who subsidise this occupation are largely

ignorant of the longstanding U.S. involvement in the politics of the region. The U.S. mumbles complaints when Israeli housing minister Ariel Sharon contravenes international law by settling Jewish immigrants in the West Bank, but the protest is not nearly equal to the zeal displayed in Operation Desert Storm.

When the deaths from the war and its brutal aftermath totalled, up to half a million will have been lost. Left in the wake is a military occupation that cries out for greater understanding by the American public and Jew, to the occupant and the occupier. My evangelical colleague was wrong on this one; we did need to deal with Saddam Hussein. The war we fought to remove him from Kuwait was not only out of proportion to the problem confronted, it was also a costly diversion from the more difficult task of ending the massive deprivation of Palestinian human rights. By the "power" of the written word, or rather, means we possess, it is time to make others see the suffering caused by their decisions.

APR 14 1991

The message from Baghdad

By André Miquel

ONE of the major surprises in recent months was the enormous impact Saddam Hussein's policy had on the Arab peoples. We will try here to provide a few clues that could throw some light on the "rhymes" and the reasons. Whether that Arab reaction was justified or not with regard to international law, to relations between the West and the Middle East, to the actual policy of states and their relationship with their peoples, the fact remains that it existed and any serious historian must accept it as it was. And explain it if he can.

What was behind that response? To confine myself to the Arab world I would say simply: a unitary sentiment. That sentiment is by no means new. To be sure, it was not yesterday but rather in 1258 that, overrun by the Mongolians, the Arabs lost, in the person of the caliph, the symbol of political unity that had gathered them together in a wide brotherhood of Muslims. Yet even further back in time, during the most glorious era of the caliph of Baghdad — that is, before the year 1,000 — that political unity

had been strongly threatened by internal dissension, the rise of provincial power centres and even the installation of rival caliphates in Cordoba and Cairo.

And yet, from one era to another, the Arab World nonetheless managed to continue living according to its own unitary rules which reflected its adherence to a religion and to the rites dictated by that religion. But that unitary spirit also dictated the way time was organised in daily routine and the Arabs' use of a common calendar as well as their participation in the same economic and cultural system. Behind a doctored facade of political unity, writings of the period and travellers tell how an Arab could feel equally at home from Spain to Iraq and even, for a time, in central Asia and on the far fringes of Iran.

No doubt a black page in Arab history was written with the Mongolian invasion, which lent strong impetus to Turkey and Iran and drove the Arab language back into the geographical confines which it inhabits today. But perhaps that invasion also served as a catalyst to the Arabs, revealing the need to seek unity

by looking first within themselves for what they had most in common, beyond the reach of outsiders: a language, a culture and, more generally, a common fount of ideas, interests, tastes, memories and hopes, to cite Fustel de Coulanges' words on the Arab Nation.

It remains to be answered how the recent Iraqi shock wave created such an impact. A traditional image sets the Arab in the desert, a desert that brings to mind oil and, most recently, a battlefield. But that is to forget that Islam was born in the cities, Mecca and Medina, that the Friday prayer and sermon requires the gathering of the community and that Muslim civilisation provided one of the most extraordinary occasions for the creation or revival of cities both numerous and populous: in the time of its splendor, Baghdad housed no less than a million souls while Paris counted only a few thousand. Nor was it alone among large Islamic cities: hundreds of thousands of people during this great age inhabited Cordoba, Cairo, Damascus, Bassora, Bukhara, Samarkand and other cities.

Those cities played a creative role in political movements and, more generally, in the dissemination of ideas. The radio and other media have taken up the tradition at present, extending it even further. The tradition, however, is ancient, and it reminds us of the political and cultural weight of the Arab city, spawning or sealing, as it did, the fate and ambitions of men.

Let us dwell, finally, on the why and how — and against what backdrop — the Arab response to Saddam Hussein gathered such proportions. The Palestinian claim, the quest for a better share-out of wealth and the demand for equal rights for all undoubtedly played a part, as has been recorded. But the message to the Arabs came not just from Saddam Hussein and from Iraq but — more importantly — from Baghdad. In other words, from the city that embodied one of the greatest triumphs of Islam. Crossroads of the world in the days of its splendor, Baghdad saw all the finest products that gave rise to the fortune and fame of commerce, from Europe to the Far East, pass through its gates. It was the centre of that world, consuming, redistributing and in-

deed itself creating a goodly part of the age's wealth. Its power, wielded by a caliph who apparently corresponded regularly with Charlemagne, ranked among the mightiest five in the geopolitical arena of the times: Arabs, Byzantines, Turks, Indians and Chinese.

Lastly, its culture was universal, acting as a melting pot into which native or neighbouring traditions all cast themselves: pre-Muslim Arabia, Pharaonic Egypt, Babylonia, Iran — as itself or as a conveyor of Indian culture — and finally Greece. The Greek manuscripts, translated into Arabic, kindled an intense scientific and philosophic movement that later, passing by way of Spain and Sicily, illuminated our own Middle Ages. That is what Baghdad symbolises today: the dream of an era when, from the heights of a majestic city, the Arabs played a vital part in the power, wealth and culture of the world.

Mr. Miquel is Professor at the College de France and the article is reprinted from *Label France*, the magazine of the French Ministry for External Affairs.

U.S. congressman acts to save Iraqi children

By Jehan Abdel Gawad

USIA

WASHINGTON — "The children of Iraq are in peril — not from bombs or bullets, but from the effects of malnutrition and disease," said Congressman Tim Penny (Democrat of Minnesota), a member of the House Select Committee on Hunger.

Maintaining that the Iraqi health crisis warrants quick action on the part of the United Nations, Penny is spearheading a drive to make frozen Iraqi funds available to UNICEF for urgent relief efforts inside Iraq.

Penny and physicians from the Arab American Medical Association (AAMA) joined the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee's (ADC) press conference on the Iraqi health care crisis at the National Press Club on July 10.

According to Dr. A.J. Al Hani, member of an AAMA delegation that travelled recently to Iraq, the infrastructure of that country is so devastated that modern health care has all but disappeared.

The 15-physician delegation from the AAMA and several German physicians from the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) visited nine Iraqi cities — "unescorted and without restrictions" — to assess the impact that the war and civil uprisings have had on health care conditions, Dr. Al Hani said.

Because few generators are working and treatment plants sit idle, "raw sewage pours into streets spreading dysentery, cholera, typhoid and other infectious diseases," Al Hani said. There is virtually no way to run basic medical equipment like refrigerators that store blood and

medicine or incubators for premature babies, the delegation members told reporters.

A Harvard University medical team estimated — "conservatively," in Mr. Al Hani's opinion — that by the end of the summer, 170,000 children will die of malnutrition, in addition to the approximately 55,000 who have already died this year.

Food is not scarce, but expensive, according to the delegation members. The price of milk has skyrocketed to between \$50 and 75 per can, they reported, adding that in some cities the premature infant mortality rate has reached 100 per cent.

Responding to this crisis, Mr. Penny has proposed a House resolution that calls on the United Nations to release a portion of Iraq's frozen assets to UNICEF for the "sole purpose of providing medical and humanitarian assistance to Iraqi citizens."

Senator Christopher Dodd (Democrat of Connecticut) plans to propose a similar but broader resolution in the Senate. This non-binding resolution which is still being drafted, would include more non-governmental organisations in the relief effort.

Both resolutions stipulate that the Iraqi government must accept U.N. oversight and control of the programme. This would, in effect, "put Saddam Hussein on the spot," said Mr. Penny. The Iraqi leader wants the assets unfrozen without any restrictions on distribution, but that would be unacceptable to the international community. "If Saddam chose not to comply with a U.N. resolution, he would look very bad," the congressman said.

Acknowledged that exact figures are not available, Mr. Pen-

ny noted that an estimated \$5,000 million belonging to Iraq are frozen in the United States and an additional \$3 billion are frozen in Europe. The relief effort would require the release of \$500 million, Mr. Penny said.

According to Glenda Kendrick, a legislative assistant in Mr. Penny's office, the resolution is primarily a "discussion piece," since the means for providing this assistance are "outside the purview of Congress." During the press conference, Mr. Penny told reporters that his resolution does not require congressional passage, because its purpose is to show support for U.N. intervention and to encourage swift action on the part of that organisation.

Mr. Penny and the AAMA have requested a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on the resolution before the start of the congressional August recess. According to Mr. Penny's office, a separate, soon-to-be-released U.N. report will confirm the AAMA's findings and will encourage similar action.

All of the delegation members were critical of the lack of "big press" coverage of the current situation inside Iraq. Mr. Penny indicated that the dearth of reports on the Iraqi children's plight could be responsible for the lack of congressional and U.N. action.

Mr. Penny said there is "no doubt" that if Americans knew the gravity of the situation in Iraq, their outpouring of compassion would have lessened the response time between the onset of the health crisis and action on the part of international organisations.

"Now that the war is over, the dying must stop," Mr. Penny said.

Jordan's record faces probe

(Continued from page 1)

the number of Arab state reports that will be examined during this session.

Out of the five state reports under scrutiny, four come from Arab countries. Besides Jordan, Sudan, Morocco and Iraq will have their periodic reports studies and commented on. Sudan's report was pursued Monday and Wednesday and its consideration was therefore concluded July 10.

During the first round of discussions, the Sudanese delegation, headed by State Minister Abdul Samir Omer, pleaded the argument that the situation in the north and the rebellion in the south have prevented his country from meeting its treaty obligations. He was frank and direct in admitting that Sudan is nowhere near to adhering to the terms and provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In the second round of discussions and in the wake of the extreme criticism that Sudan's criminal code has drawn from the members of the committee, he switched to the argument that in Sudan the Holy

Koran is above all laws and treaties and that his government is obligated to give priority to the tenets of Islam in legislating on any sphere of life in Sudan. He also stated that his country does not feel obligated to copy the principles and guidelines of the Western nations that colonised the countries of Africa for so long. He also pointed out that to be faithful to Islam the country needs to translate the Islamic ways into every walk of life since Islam is a complete religion and a way of life and a way to govern and be governed.

Morocco objected for the presence of French and other TV networks to cover the examination of its report. Although the meeting of the committee is public, the Moroccan ambassador to the U.N. office in Geneva objected to the wide publicity being given to his country's report and asserted that that would interfere with the presentation of the report. The press and T.V. are interested in the Moroccan case after the publicity against Morocco generated by recent books on the human rights situation in that country.

Iraq agrees to provide nuclear list

(Continued from page 1)

programme. Iraq said it omitted the information for reasons of national security.

Iraq insisted Saturday it was engaged only in peaceful nuclear research and vowed President Saddam Hussein would not be bound out of power.

Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein Khudayer, in a statement carried by Iraq's state-run newspapers, accused Washington of mixing political motives, such as toppling President Saddam, with humanitarian issues and causing the Iraqi people to suffer.

"To destroy Iraq's nuclear facilities which are all devoted to peaceful and scientific purposes is one objective of the American Atlantic (Gulf war alliance) aggression to fulfil Israeli plans," he said.

"U.S. President George Bush is acting on behalf of Israel to fulfil the needs of international Zionism," he said.

He said Israel had nuclear arms and, unlike Iraq, had not signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and yet Washington did nothing.

Some diplomats in Baghdad draw a link between the nuclear row, a U.N. blockade and an oft-stated U.S. and British desire

to see President Saddam removed from power.

"It may be regarded as a sort of pressure to do something here. Probably to change Saddam Hussein," one said.

Mr. Khudayer described the Iraqi people as being wedded to President Saddam. "Saddam Hussein is Iraq and Iraq is Saddam Hussein," he said, adding that the Iraqi people were devoted to their leader.

Earlier Saturday, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned President Saddam of a possible military strike by the anti-Iraq allies unless Iraq reveals details of its nuclear programmes.

Presidential spokesman Mohammad Abdul Moneim said Mr. Mubarak sent the message to President Saddam through a third, unidentified party.

Mr. Abdul Moneim said the message pointed out to "the danger of (Iraq's) present position, which might lead the Iraqi people to the possibility of another attack by allied forces that could destroy some strategic targets inside Iraq."

Mr. Mubarak said such an attack "could happen because of Iraq's rejection of international calls to allow investigation of its nuclear facilities," Mr. Abdul Moneim said.

"In his message, President Hosni Mubarak asked President Saddam Hussein to study the present Iraqi position and consider it properly."

Libyan leader Muammar

Qadhafi has warned Turkish President Turgut Ozal that any attack on Iraq from Turkish territory would "blow up" relations between their countries, Libyan television said Friday.

In a message to Mr. Ozal quoted by Libyan Television and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Colonel Qadhafi said the West wanted Turkey to be an accessory to a "terrorist policy" designed to subjugate Arab peoples to a greater Israel.

Saudis locate 'black box'

(Continued from page 1)

"All the bodies which have been found have been buried, each body in its separate grave," said Nigerian Consul G.O. Akambi.

The funerals were supervised by Mr. Akambi; Haj Mohammad Bashir, the leader of the official Nigerian pilgrims delegation; Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ibrahim Ben Dada; Saudi Minister of the Haj Abdul Wahab Abdul Wasei, and Hamid Al Gadid, secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

The exact number of victims still remained unclear.

Syria to reply to U.S. soon

(Continued from page 1)

There has been no announcement yet of a formal Syrian response to the Bush letter.

Israel rejects a role for the United Nations, which Syria has insisted is necessary.

The Jewish state also has insisted that the conference meet just once, then break up into bilateral negotiations that could lead to separate peace treaties. Syria has said it wants a con-

tinuing role for the conferees.

A Syrian response seen as positive could bring Mr. Baker back to the region to mediate further.

Mr. Salman also said Syria expected the international community to "use one standard while dealing with U.N. resolutions."

He added: "Israel should be treated the same as Saddam Hussein when he rejected the U.N. resolutions."

Egypt to lift curbs on Gazans

(Continued from page 1)

said last week that the panel was exerting efforts to ensure that those Gazans who want to come to Jordan are accepted by the Kingdom.

Interior Minister Jawdat Shoul said Saturday the government has not been approached in connection with this issue and the cabinet has not discussed the subject of Gazans' entry or transit through Jordanian territory.

At the same time, Mr. Shoul said: "The issue does not concern the Jordanian Interior Ministry or the Jordanian government alone."

It is a question that has to be dealt with at a pan-Arab level."

Mr. Shoul said Jordan was indeed aware of the problem of people facing expulsion from Kuwait in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

"Jordan will receive all those who possess Jordanian passports, including West Bank residents who carry temporary Jordanian passports," Mr. Shoul said. "We will facilitate the return to the West Bank of the temporary passport holders and extend help wherever possible," he added.

On the question of Gazans,

he said, "we have not been approached by anyone over this issue."

"When Jordan is formally approached with any request for help, then we will consider it, in line with the pan-Arab national positions that the Kingdom has always adopted and advocated and within the limitations imposed by its resources," he said.

Highly informed sources said that Jordan will not allow itself to be singled out to shoulder the responsibility of the Gazans while other Arab countries which have much larger resources were turning a deaf ear to the problem.

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'Japan's big 4 brokerages covered 229 clients' losses'

TOKYO (R) — Japan's top four brokerages involved in a securities market scandal improperly covered investment losses incurred by 229 favoured clients totalling about 125 billion yen (\$912 million), Japanese press reports said Saturday.

The big four were Nomura Securities Co Ltd, Nikko Securities Co Ltd, Daiwa Securities Co Ltd and Yamaichi Securities Co Ltd, the newspaper Asahi Shimbun and Kyodo News Agency said.

The figures were based on reports filed by the securities houses to the Finance Ministry, according to Asahi and Kyodo.

Ministry officials were not immediately available for comment on the press reports.

Asahi and Kyodo, quoting ministry sources, said Nomura had paid 25.6 billion yen (\$186 million) to 49 clients, Nikko 33.3 billion yen (\$243 million) to 59 clients, Daiwa 21.8 billion yen (\$159 million) to 55 clients and Yamaichi 43.9 billion yen (\$320 million) to 66 clients.

The Finance Ministry and the four securities houses had refused to disclose the names of the clients involved, the reports said.

The Finance Ministry earlier this week ordered the four brokerages to curb part of their business for four days.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto and two senior ministry officials had agreed to forfeit 10 per cent of their salaries for three months for their ministry's failure to supervise the improper activities of top brokerages.

Japanese financial circles have been plagued by a series of resignations, including those of the presidents of Nomura and Nikko, over the brokerage scandals.

Opposition parties have demanded that parliament investigate the market scandal when an extraordinary session is expected to open in August.

Keigo Onchi, chairman of the minor opposition Democratic Socialist Party, told supporters in Fukuoka Saturday that a special parliamentary committee should be set up to investigate the scandal and that the names of the favoured clients should be revealed.

Bush approves moves to expand trade with E. Europe

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (AP) — President George Bush Friday authorised moves to expand U.S. trade with the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe in goods ranging from steel and textiles to cheese.

Mr. Bush's administration said it would lower some tariffs and increase U.S. import quotas for cheese, textiles and steel from Eastern Europe.

The White House gave no estimate of the volume of increased trade with Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia and other East European countries that sell very little to the United States.

Dubbed the trade enhancement initiative, the plan was first announced by Mr. Bush during a March visit to Washington by Polish President Lech Walesa.

The White House said Mr. Bush was making the changes now to follow up on recommendations from a team of trade experts the administration dispatched to Eastern Europe.

The administration said in a statement that the "economic transformation of these countries will depend greatly on increased trade and access to world markets."

The announcement came on the eve of Mr. Bush's departure for Europe and a three-day London economic summit with leaders of the other six leading economic democracies, where aid to the Soviet Union will be a primary topic.

Some officials in Eastern European countries have expressed unhappiness with the emphasis being placed on the Soviet Union at the summit. They contend they have moved much farther in changing over to free-market economies and therefore deserve more help from the West.

Peru faces critical month

LIMA, Peru (R) — Peru, battling to control an inflation rate that could top 200 per cent this year and wipe out a huge budget deficit, faces a critical month for its economic stabilisation programme, economists say.

In an effort to bridge a \$300 million budget gap, Peru plans emergency measures that probably will include expansion of the sales tax to cover food and more services, fuel price hikes, a tax on personal assets and a surcharge on income of the highest-paid workers, sources close to the economy and finance ministry said.

"We are searching for taxes that will generate revenues quickly and effectively and at the same time reduce spending," Economy and Finance Minister Carlos Bolona said in a radio programme. He reiterated his promise not to print new money and worsen inflation.

President Alberto Fujimori's 11-month-old government will be especially strained this month because public sector workers get an extra month's salary as an independence day bonus. At the same time the government is struggling to check inflation, which already has surpassed official estimates of 28 per cent for all of 1991.

Consumer prices rose 9.3 per cent last month, boosting inflation to 72.8 per cent so far this year, the government has reported. The main factor in the June increase was an 18 per cent rise in fuel prices.

Economist Alejandro Indacochea estimated inflation for the year would top 200 per cent. "Reducing inflation is also having an immense social cost," said Mr. Indacochea.

"The economy is significantly paralysed, with firms working at 30 per cent capacity, a 95 per cent underemployment rate and the social unrest we are witnessing daily in the streets," he said, referring to often violent demonstrations by strikers.

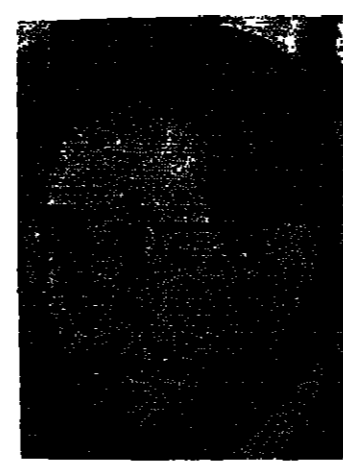
Health workers and teachers, who earn the equivalent of \$35 to \$50 a month in a country with a cost of living comparable to many U.S. cities, have been striking for months.

But Mr. Bolona made it clear that raises will not exceed \$30 a month and that basic services like electricity and transportation will continue to rise in line with operating costs.

The crux of the problem, say economists, is an ineffective revenue collection programme plagued by massive tax evasion.

"Peruvians are not accustomed to paying taxes," said Eduardo Lastra of the financial magazine Avance Económico.

Mr. Bolona said the government had increased tax collection to 7.5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), from a record low of four per cent last year. Yet



Alberto Fujimori's it is still far from its goal of 12 per cent of GDP.

Last week, he accused members of congress, with whom he had been haggling over the new tax measures, of blocking his proposals out of fear of the political consequences.

Although Mr. Bolona has said his emergency measures will take the most from the wealthiest, the poorest also will be forced to further tighten their belts, Mr. Lastra said.

The current minimum wage of \$45 a month covers only 20 per cent of a basket of foodstuffs providing the minimum nutritional needs of a family of four, he said. Any new taxes are likely to further depress the economy, which has shrunk at a rapid 5.6 per cent this year.

Peru, seeking to become a recipient of international aid after years as an outcast when former president Alan Garcia limited debt payments, has paid over \$250 million to world agencies since last year.

Chile's trade policy gets good marks in GATT survey

GENEVA (R) — The GATT trade watchdog body has praised Chile's economic and trade policies, saying reforms by its former military government had set the country on a path of steady and robust development.

Rapid growth of trade and vigorous investment activity had enabled Chile to boost exports and imports since the mid-1980s, and foreign trading partners had shared the benefits, a report by the secretariat of the 102-member General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said.

"The Chilean experience suggests that rapid trade reforms, when combined with an appropriate mix and sequencing of stabilisation policies are a sustainable recipe for improving economic performance," the report said.

Chile's economy had become increasingly resilient. As the world's leading copper producer, it remained vulnerable to fluctuations in the world copper market, but progressive export diversification had reduced copper's share in total exports to around one-half, the report added.

Chile, which joined GATT in 1949, was the 14th member of the trade body to be scrutinised under a procedure launched in 1989 to evaluate states' trade policies. Others already examined by the Geneva-based body which sets the rules for 90 per cent of world commerce were Australia, Canada, Colombia, the European Community, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, Sweden, Thailand and the United States.

The GATT report said distortion of world markets for farm products through export subsidies and other support measures used by foreign trading partners was a major concern for Chile.

The government has responded by underpinning domestic price bands it set for sugar, wheat and oilseeds through variable composite tariff duties imposed on imports.

These measures had the potential to substantially increase government assistance during

periods of falling world prices. Success of GATT's current Uruguay Round negotiations for freer world trade would make it easier to rationalise these and other support policies, the report said.

It said the democratically elected government which came to power in March 1990 had reaffirmed Chile's strong commitment to the market-oriented foreign trade policy followed by its military predecessor.

A uniform 15 per cent tariff duty was the principal measure controlling imports, and firm commitment to this and to non-discrimination had held off pressure by domestic trade sectors for protection from foreign competition.

The tariff level was still a substantial barrier, and its reduction would enhance efficiency gains and promote competitive export industries in Chile.

A major new dimension in Chilean trade policies was the high priority given to bilateral trading arrangements, especially with the United States. But the government did not consider this conflicted with its strong commitment to the multilateral trading system, the GATT report said.

BCCI Nigeria changes name CIA used Luxembourg bank ordered closed — report

NEW YORK (R) — The Luxembourg-based Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI), closed last week by international banking regulators, was used for Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operations, the New York Times reported Saturday.

Quoting U.S. government and bank documents and current and former officials, the newspaper said the 19-year-old bank, which had mainly Arab investors and Pakistani management, was involved in secret arms deals.

It said they included the 1986 covert sale of American arms to Iran, using accounts that international arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi said in a 1987 interview that he controlled.

The CIA used the bank to funnel money to Afghan rebels and ousted Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega used it for intelligence operations that he has said he engaged in largely at the CIA's behest.

Luxembourg allowed the bank to operate with secrecy and under relatively lax regulation, the New York Times said.

The bank operated in more than 70 countries and its hierarchy included heads of state and people with ties to intelligence agencies and armed services throughout the world, the newspaper said.

A leading investor in the bank, businessman Kamal Adham, formerly headed the Saudi Arabian Intelligence Agency, the New York Times said. One of his business partners was Raymond Close, the former CIA station chief in Saudi Arabia in the 1970s, the newspaper said.

It quoted a Wall Street Journal report Friday saying an audit by Price Waterhouse accountants found that the bank's loans to insiders included one of \$300 million to Mr. Adham.

In a separate report, the Washington Post said the Federal Reserve Board had begun action to ban three former BCCI executives and Saudi Arabian businessman Ghazi Pharaon from any future involvement with U.S. banks because of their role in the illegal purchase of a California bank.

The Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. central bank, also referred the case to the Justice Department for investigation of possible criminal activity.

In Lagos Friday, the Nigerian affiliate of the BCCI has changed its name to African International Bank, according to a Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) spokesman.

Officials of the bank said the change had been planned a year ago and it was unconnected with allegations of massive fraud which led authorities in several nations, including Britain and Luxembourg, to shut down much of its operations a week ago.

BCCI's Nigerian affiliate, with 48 branches in the country, is 60 per cent locally owned and has continued to operate normally with the backing of the CBN.

Abdullahi Mahmoud, African International Bank's managing director, was quoted in local press reports Friday as saying: "It is an unfortunate coincidence that the name change comes at this time."

Mr. Mahmoud said the bank, Abu Dhabi-controlled BCCI's biggest affiliate in sub-Saharan Africa, had applied for the change of name in 1990 and it was approved by the CBN earlier this year.

He said prior to the fraud allegations and closure of a number of BCCI operations in other countries, the Nigerian affiliates' foreign equity holder, BCCI Abu Dhabi, had indicated its intention to withdraw from Nigeria.

He said the bank did not renew its technical agreement with its overseas partners which expired in January.

Monetary authorities in West and Central Africa ordered the closure of most local branches of the BCCI as anxious depositors sought to withdraw their money.

Nigeria's independent Guardian daily said following flows of the liquidation of BCCI assets in major European countries some local customers of the bank in Nigeria rushed to withdraw huge sums from their deposits.

A Nigerian government official told Reuters the fear of a possible run on the bank led the CBN Tuesday to issue a statement saying the local bank was sound.

CBN spokesman Tony Ede said the newly named African International Bank was still operating normally.

"From what we know the bank has no immediate problems it can't deal with," Mr. Ede told Reuters.

The bank reported assets totalling 2.08 billion naira (\$198 million) at end-1990, up from 1.7 billion naira (\$168 million) a year earlier.

EC concerned over the progress of Greece's recovery programme

ATHENS (R) — European Commission Vice President Henning Christophersen, who is visiting Greece, is deeply concerned about the state of the country's economic recovery programme, the commission office here said Friday.

"The vice-president has expressed serious concern over the public deficit and some structural aspects of the reform programme," the office said in a statement.

Mr. Christophersen, the EC's economic affairs commissioner, is in Athens with a party of EC officials.

Greece was granted an EC loan in February on condition that it turns the economy around, mainly by reducing deficits and cutting inflation, which is the highest in the EC.

The first one billion ECU (\$1.1 billion) of the 2.2 billion ECU (\$2.5 billion) balance of payments loan was disbursed in February.

But the EC has made clear that further instalments due in 1992 and 1993 would be linked to Greece meeting its conditions.

"The loan, of which a first tranche has been disbursed, was granted conditional to the implementation of a medium-term reform programme," the statement said.

The programme includes reducing public sector staff, fighting tax evasion, privatising state-owned firms and cutting public spending.

Mr. Christophersen urged the Greek government to stick to the plan or risk missing out on some benefits of the single European market after 1992.

"The vice-president underlined that the full implementation of the programme is necessary for Greece to take full advantage of the internal market and monetary and economic union," the statement from the commission, the EC executive, said.

Athens financial newspapers said EC officials were especially concerned over public sector hirings, delays in privatisation and Greece's difficulties in collecting taxes.

These problems could hinder Greece from bringing its budget deficit down to 10.5 per cent of gross domestic product in 1991 from 18.5 per cent in 1990, a target included in the loan conditions.

Year-on-year inflation has shown signs of improvement, dropping to 18.1 per cent in June after peaking at 22.8 per cent at the end of 1990.

Financial Markets		
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin		
Date: 11/7/1991		
Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.688	.690
Sterling Pound	1.1151	1.1187
Deutsche Mark	.3786	.3805
Swiss Franc	.4364	.4386
French Franc	.1116	.1122
Japanese Yen	.4957	.4982
Dutch Guilder	.5562	.5579
Swedish Krona	.1047	.1052
Italian Lira	.0509	.0512
Belgian Franc	.01842	.01851
Other Currencies		
Date: 11/7/1991		
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8100	1.8350
Lebanese Lira	.0760	.0760
Saudi Riyal	.1830	.1839
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.860	1.873
Qatari Riyal	.1860	.1873
Egyptian Pound	.1850	.2000
Omani Riyal	1.7500	1.7900
U.A.E. Dirham	.1860	.1873
Greek Drachma	.5300	.5500
Cypriot Pound	1.3800	1.4100

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Turkish finance minister floats plan to refinance internal debt

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Finance Minister Adnan Kahveci is floating a controversial plan to refinance short-term internal debt through bonds linked to gold or foreign exchange, newspapers have reported.

Mr. Kahveci wants to issue the bonds to replace high-interest short-term debt denominated in Turkish liras, the left-leaning daily Cumhuriyet said.

A finance ministry official said the proposal, designed to fund public sector pay rises and relieve the budget deficit, was being discussed with banks. The central bank and treasury have in the past opposed such ideas.

The new government of Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz last week gave mid-year pay rises averaging 40 per cent to civil servants, the police and army to offset 64.9 per cent annual inflation.

Many bankers and opposition politicians believe the government will pay the higher salaries by printing more money, undermining its own pledges to tackle inflation.

The finance ministry official said Mr. Kahveci's idea was to lighten pressure on public finances by shifting short-term internal debt, on which the treasury is paying around 70 per cent interest, into longer-term instruments.

"This will reduce debt-servicing to finance the pay hikes and relieve the budget by seven to 10 trillion lira (\$1.6 to \$2.2 billion)," the official said.

The treasury and central bank have in the past opposed Mr. Kahveci's proposals for bonds indexed to foreign currencies.

Central Bank Governor Rusdu Saracoglu believes the way to combat inflation and bring down runaway public deficits is to restrict treasury borrowing.

"What should not happen," he said, "is that the treasury should borrow in Turkey in foreign exchange indexed bonds."

"The treasury should not borrow in any currency other than its national currency. Domestic bor-

rowing in foreign exchange would show the treasury has no confidence in its own currency," he said.

The finance ministry official said finding alternatives to costly treasury bills and bonds would enable the government to meet its public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) target of 8.5 per cent of gross national product (GNP). The PSBR jumped to 11 per cent in 1990.

The official said the new borrowing policy could break Turkey's inflationary spiral. It would reduce devaluation, bring down interest rates and thus stimulate industrial production.

Reserve and liquidity requirements would be reduced to win the cooperation of banks which have bought treasury bills and bonds worth 30 trillion lira (\$6.6 billion) this year.

Banks currently have a liquidity requirement of 35 per cent and a reserve requirement of 8.25 per cent of lira deposits, limits which have made corporate borrowing expensive.

The official said new instruments could be linked to the dollar, Deutschmark, ECU (European Currency Unit) or could be denominated in lira tied to some unspecified value.

The ruling centre-right Motherland Party must fight general elections by the end of 1992.

A government source said the party would not go to the polls for at least a year. It would seek growth of at least seven per cent to ensure victory, but would also try to curb inflation.

Saracoglu told Istanbul businessmen this month that without structural measures the economy's stable growth rate potential was 5.5 to six per cent.

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U.S., Soviets hold 3rd day of arms talks

START still remains elusive

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.-Soviet talks aimed at concluding a strategic missile-reduction treaty are entering a third day Saturday without agreement on the last stubborn issues.

President George Bush, on the eve of his scheduled Sunday departure for a multi-nation summit meeting in London, showed no optimism on the talks.

"We're not ready to sum it up yet," Mr. Bush said when asked how the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) talks were proceeding.

He said that Secretary of State James Baker had phoned National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft to brief him on the discussions he had held into the evening Friday with Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh.

"I'm just not sure whether we're quite there. I don't think so," Mr. Bush said of the pro-

tracted negotiating process. The talks are aimed at achieving a 30 per cent reduction in the long-range nuclear arsenals of each country.

Mr. Baker and Mr. Bessmertnykh set up Saturday's session Friday night after charging experts with finding a solution through the night to the highly technical disputes.

A senior U.S. official said Mr. Baker had proposed to Mr. Bessmertnykh an approach to try to wrap up work on the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty.

The official, who demanded anonymity, told the Associated Press that Mr. Baker had made no new proposals on the issues but had suggested he and Mr. Bessmertnykh exchange their "bottom line positions" with nothing to be binding until all issues were resolved.

A well-placed U.S. official said

the Soviets had not given ground on one tough issue — whether missiles would carry fewer warheads than they had been tested with.

The U.S. government is opposed to "downloading" because it fears that in a crisis the Soviets might simply load the missiles with their full quotas of warheads — and in the meantime the Soviets could apply the number of warheads to other missiles provided they were within the overall limit of 6,000.

"If we were 96 per cent a couple of weeks ago, we are 97 per cent now," Mr. Baker said Thursday after 4½ hours of talks with Mr. Bessmertnykh. "But we've got to be 100 per cent."

Completing the treaty would set the stage for President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to meet in Moscow

this summer to sign a treaty.

Mr. Baker said proposals brought from Moscow by Mr. Bessmertnykh dealt with two remaining issues — how much information on missile tests would be exchanged by the two countries and the definition of new missiles.

"I think we have made some progress on these issues," Mr. Baker said.

However, he said the third stumbling block — how many warheads certain missiles would carry — was still a serious problem.

"We are no way home free on that issue," Mr. Baker said, quickly adding, "please don't take that to mean we are home free on the others."

Still, Mr. Bessmertnykh said they had "a very good round of talks."

American shot dead in Philippines

MANILA (R) — Unidentified gunmen shot dead a son of a U.S. embassy officer in the Philippines early Saturday, a source close to the embassy said.

The killing occurred two days before the resumption of talks in Manila between U.S. and Philippine negotiators on the future of American military bases in the country.

Two companions of the slain American were wounded when the gunmen, riding in a vehicle, opened fire at the three after they had stepped from a car in a plush area of the Makati Financial Centre.

The gunmen escaped. There was no immediate indication that rebel groups were involved in the shooting, a security man in the area said in a telephone interview.

Initial investigation showed that the American and his companions had come from a discotheque where they had a quarrel with a group of disco-goers, the security man said.

He said the group followed the American and his companions in a car as they drove away from the discotheque and that the firing apparently came from the following car.

The identity of the American was not immediately released. In a separate development, Philippine President Corason Aquino named Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon as her chief of staff Saturday. He is the fourth man to fill the post in five years.

Mr. Drilon, 45, takes over the position of executive secretary from the popular Oscar Orbes who quit over policy differences with other cabinet ministers and a falling out with Mrs. Aquino.

Mr. Orbes resigned on July 4. Presidential legal adviser Magdangal Elma has been acting in the position since Monday.

"To consolidate the many initiatives of the government that are underway... and to facilitate their successful completion, we need a professional with the proven ability to manage the bureaucracy, work effectively

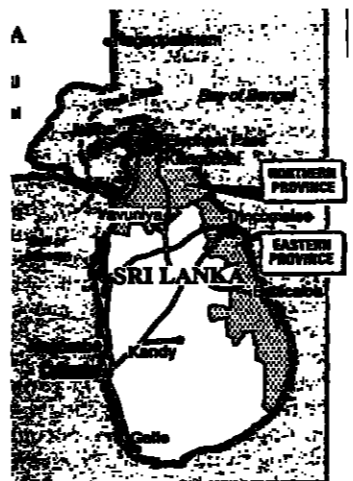
with his peers and with the other government offices and constituencies," Mrs. Aquino said in a statement.

Mr. Drilon has been a member of Mrs. Aquino's cabinet since September 1986, serving first as deputy labour secretary, then from January 1987 as labour secretary.

He was appointed justice secretary on Dec. 31, 1989 in a major cabinet reshuffle that followed an abortive army coup earlier that month.

Mrs. Aquino has not appointed a new justice minister. Mr. Drilon is also chairman of the state-controlled Philippine National Bank and head of a cabinet committee on political and security matters.

"In the course of promoting industrial peace, expediting the administration of justice and addressing other vital national concerns, Franklin has earned the admiration of the private sector, the respect of fellow cabinet members and my deep personal trust," Mrs. Aquino said.



50 rebels, 10 soldiers killed in Sri Lankan battle

COLOMBO (R) — At least 50 Tamil separatist guerrillas and 10 soldiers were killed in three days of fierce fighting for a vital army camp in northern Sri Lanka, official sources said Saturday.

A military spokesman said the battle for the base at Elephant Pass which links Jaffna peninsula, the rebel stronghold, to the rest of the island had eased Saturday.

"Now there is firing only once in a while," he said. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam attacked the camp on Wednesday with mortar bombs, rocket propelled grenades and small arms fire from bunkers only 200 metres away.

They made a suicide attempt to storm the base using armoured bulldozers and tractors packed with explosives.

After three days of fierce fighting, the soldiers repulsed the attackers with artillery and small arms while air force bombers and helicopter gunships hit rebel positions.

"Our bombing and firing have caused heavy casualties among the terrorists. They are calling for blood supplies. Some of their ammunition depots have been destroyed," a military officer said.

He said 10 soldiers, including a major, were killed in the three-day battle and 22 were wounded, about 10 seriously.

The state-run news agency Lankapavath, quoting official sources, said 50 rebels were killed and more than 150 wounded.

Government involved in violence, ANC says

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — The African National Congress (ANC) said Saturday the government was deeply involved in chronic township violence and complained that the U.S. stance on political prisoners implied recognition of the black homelands.

The black opposition group also said at a news conference that foreign countries should support its calls for an interim government and elected constituent assembly as part of negotiating an end to white minority rule.

The statements followed a week of international rewards for President F.W. de Klerk's National Party government for its steps toward dismantling apartheid and negotiating power-sharing with the black majority.

The United States lifted most of its economic sanctions against South Africa, and the International Olympic Committee and International Cricket Council readmitted the country.

Despite Mr. De Klerk's reforms, which included the elimination of apartheid laws and legalising opposition groups, South Africa's black majority lacks national voting rights.

Last week, the ANC's national conference reiterated its boycott of constitutional talks with the government because of the township violence and the government's alleged failure to release all political prisoners.

"We are feeling more and more that the government is very much involved" in the violence, ANC Deputy President Walter Sisulu said Saturday. "We say the government is conniving or responsible. We have not gone to the extent of saying the government is totally responsible."

He said the government's motivation was to "weaken" the ANC, and he blamed police and security forces for taking part. The ANC accuses security forces of siding with its rival, the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party, in the violence that has killed more than 6,000 people in five years.

A police report Saturday said four people died and five were injured in scattered unrest throughout the country.

Silayev appointed Russian premier

MOSCOW (R) — The parliament of the Russian Federation has reconfirmed Ivan Silayev as the republic's prime minister after his nomination by President Boris Yeltsin.

The Soviet News Agency (TASS) said Mr. Silayev, who backed Mr. Yeltsin's radical economic reform programme and supported his candidacy at the polls last month, won the post handsily.

Mr. Silayev resigned Thursday to give Mr. Yeltsin, inaugurated the day before at a Kremlin ceremony, a free hand in forming a new administration.

Mr. Silayev is one of the co-founders, along with Mr. Yeltsin's Vice President Alexander Rutskoi, of a new centrist movement intended to challenge the Soviet Communist Party for power.

But in two rounds of balloting, the Congress of People's Deputies failed to name a successor to Mr. Yeltsin as the parliament's chairman.

The results revealed a split in the Democratic Russia bloc, which has been unable to agree on a single candidate for the post. As a result, neo-conservative Communist Sergei Barburin gathered the most votes but fell well short of a majority.

Russian Khasbulatov, once Mr. Yeltsin's deputy and now acting chairman, came in second. He will continue to chair the sessions until the full parliament meets again in several months.

Meanwhile the Soviet parliament Friday approved measures aimed at stripping top officials of secret privileges, including country houses at giveaway prices and use of state planes and cars for private trips.

A resolution backed up an order by President Mikhail Gorbachev for a government clean-up after a parliamentary commission uncovered widespread illegal benefits for members of the Nomenklatura, or top Communist Party and state officials.

Seoul National Assembly votes for U.N. entry

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's National Assembly voted unanimously Saturday to join the United Nations.

With the passing of the bill supporting U.N. membership, South Korea now has only to submit an application, which the government said it would do in early August.

Ruling and opposition party leaders welcomed the decision to join the U.N. and said such a move should help bring about the reunification of North and South Korea.

"South and North Korea's joining the United Nations together is a result of (South Korean) President Roh Tae-woo's reunification policy as well as a victory of our diplomatic policy," said Kim Young-sam, co-leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP).

"By joining the U.N. we are now a member of the world community in real terms. The matter of reunification should be taken up by both the ruling and opposition parties," said Kim Dae-jung, leader of South Korea's main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP).

Late last year, South Korea said it would apply unilaterally for U.N. membership.

North Korea, ending decades of insistence that both Koreas share one seat, submitted its own application to the U.N. on July 8, a decision welcomed by South Korea.

The two Koreas have been technically at war since the 1950-53 Korean War.

North Korea had long opposed separate U.N. membership for the two Koreas as an obstacle to eventual reunification but announced a reluctant about-face in May prompted by South Korea's determination to join the world body.

The 15-nation U.N. Security Council, in which both China and the Soviet Union have veto power, will rule on the Korean applications before the General Assembly opens in September.

South Korean President Roh Tae-woo is due to deliver a key-note speech to the United Nations on Sept. 12.

South Korea formally accepted Saturday North Korea's proposal to resume prime ministerial talks in August.

China warns MFN removal could cost U.S. normal ties

PEKING (R) — China has warned the United States that cancellation of Peking's trade privileges would risk a return to relations that existed before the Communist nation opened to the outside world.

In the most strongly-worded salvo yet fired in the battle over China's most favoured nation (MFN) status, the official People's Daily newspaper said Saturday the China market would be closed to the United States if MFN were suspended.

"China has made its best efforts but is also prepared to take the worst to come," a signed commentary in the paper said. "What's the worst to come? It can't be worse than going back to the situation before the two countries established diplomatic relations (in 1979) or even worse, going back to that before 1972."

In 1972, President Richard Nixon

became the first U.S. chief executive to visit China. The Communist giant opened its doors to the outside world in 1978.

The U.S. House of Representatives approved a resolution Wednesday overturning President George Bush's extension of China's most favoured nation status for a year, a vote regarded largely as symbolic as the Senate was not expected to join the House in rejecting MFN status for Peking.

The House also approved legislation Wednesday attaching conditions to MFN renewal that would require improvement over the next year in China's human rights practices and assurances on nuclear and missiles exports and other issues.

Similar legislation, drafted by leading Democrats, is pending in the Senate.

Relief efforts increase as China fights floods

PEKING (AP) — Workers struggled Saturday to evacuate people trapped by flooding in eastern China and get relief supplies to storm-battered areas as the country braced for more floods.

Officials said they did not have updated nationwide casualty figures, but state-run media described the recent torrential rains and flooding as the worst to hit China this century.

Flood waters have wiped out crops, washed out railroad lines, set off landslides and left at least 2 million people homeless following weeks of rains and storms in China.

Most of the deaths and damage have been in Anhui and Jiangsu provinces in eastern China.

Officials warned that continued rains threaten to worsen conditions in many flood-ravaged areas, particularly along swollen tributaries of the Yangtze River.

The Yangtze, the longest river in Asia, flows eastward from southwestern China through the industrial city of Wuhan to Shanghai, where it empties into the East China Sea.

Officials in Peking told city departments to be prepared in case heavy rains and flooding hit the capital, the official Peking Daily newspaper reported.

In the most recent regional casualty report released, the state-run Xinhua News Agency said severe storms and flooding in central Hubei province killed 120 people and injured 1,800 during the past 10 days.

China released figures Thursday showing the 1,270 people had died in floods nationwide from January through July 5, most in the current flooding. Xinhua later reported 34 deaths, bringing the total to 1,304.

It was not clear if some of the Hubei deaths were included in the nationwide toll.

Villages all along the railroad line running south through Anhui province from Peking were flooded Saturday. The water was up to the eaves of homes, with only the roofs showing.

In one small town, half a dozen makeshift shelters were built on the train platform, which was the highest and driest point in view.

In the city of Nanjing in Jiangsu province, streets had been covered with water a few days ago. But only small stretches along the Yangtze were submerged Saturday.

Berlin Wall will stick around for a while

BERLIN (AP) — Thirty years after it was built and nearly two years after it was broken, the Berlin Wall is still falling.

The old cold war relic is proving tougher to take down than previously thought. And the former east German border troops who built and guarded it are apparently reluctant to remove it.

"They don't want to lose their jobs," said a German army official in Berlin who spoke on condition of anonymity.

They won't have to worry about that for awhile. On Friday, the government said it would retain 500 former border guards to continue their sole remaining job: Getting rid of that wall.

The guards are to be kept on until Sept. 30, 1992, extending by one year the latest of several deadlines for removing Berlin's most notorious landmark.

"We expect the rest of the wall to be gone by then," said Axel Hedergerott, head of a civilian committee overseeing the demolition, which is being supervised by the army.

About 33 kilometres — including some of the most heavily fortified stretches — still remain of the 160-kilometre edifice that snaked around what was west Berlin.

The wall was triumphantly

opened on Nov. 9, 1989, an event that dizzied the peaceful revolt that toppled east Germany's Stalinist government and cleared the way to German unity.

Although sections were removed to open roads and celebrate the wall's demise in subsequent months, the final demolition didn't begin in earnest until last summer.

It was originally anticipated that the wall would be gone in a few months.

But it hasn't been easy. The wall had been continually fortified since its crude, barbed-wire and brick beginnings on Aug. 13, 1961, when its hasty construction shocked the world.

The structure evolved into twin walls of steel-reinforced concrete that left a "death strip" in the middle stocked with alarm systems, booby traps, vicious dogs, fortress-like towers, search lights and border guards with orders to shoot to kill anybody who dared attempt a crossing.

An unanticipated minefield in the vicinity of the wall also slowed down work on its demolition.

Defections by border troops seeking more stable employment, a rash of summer vacations, and some apparent foot-dragging by

the remaining crews have slowed the removal, army officials say.

Although casual visitors to downtown Berlin would be hard-pressed to find an intact stretch of wall, long sections still jut from the ground in outlying areas.

Some are as hauntingly unblemished as the day they were built, others broken and splashed with graffiti.

One punched-out stretch of flagstones in a secluded downtown neighbourhood towers eerily over a cemetery like a series of giant headstones.

Several hundred metres still flank the tiny hamlet of Steinstuecken, a community southwest of Berlin that was virtually enclosed by the wall.

Many of the east Germans who were allowed to live near the wall were the most trusted Communist Party members and agents for the feared secret police network, Stasi.

Gerd Knecht, a Steinstuecken resident once awakened by an east German who knocked on his door after clambering over the wall to freedom, claims his Stasi neighbours want the wall to remain to buffer the sound of a subway that runs nearby.

"Even after everything that has happened, they still find a reason

to want the wall," he said. Some sections of the wall are to remain standing as memorials to the people who died trying to flee. Parks are being built around them.

A long section will remain on Bernauer Street. The wall was literally built into the homes on the east Berlin side of the street while their neighbours on the west side screamed in anger and horror.

While workers plastered over windows and doors, frantic people jumped from upper-story windows and smashed onto the cobblestone street below. Several died.

The wall, ordered by east German Communists and approved by the Soviets, was built largely to stop east Germans fleeing Soviet occupied east Germany.

Several former east German border guards are under investigation for having killed some of the 200 people who died trying to flee the country since the wall went up.

The west German army, when it absorbed the eastern army last year, insisted the border troops become a separate, civilian entity whose only task would be to dismantle the fortifications they once fiercely patrolled.



Prince Edward joins the jobless

LONDON (R) — Britain's Prince Edward, the youngest son of Queen Elizabeth, joined the country's two million unemployed Friday after the independent theatre company he helped establish said it was closing down.

But the failure of the Theatre Division Company does not leave the 27-year-old prince penniless — he receives £100,000 (\$160,000) a year from the state to cover the expenses of his official duties as a member of the royal family. Prince Edward left a job as production assistant for hit composer Andrew Lloyd Webber to join the Theatre Division, which was launched last year by a breakaway group from Webber's really useful entertainment business. The company, where the prince worked as a technical administrator, was forced to close because a major sponsor withdrew its backing. Director Bridget Hayward said, "We were too new and our resources too limited to survive one of the worst economic climates and total lack of tourism in the spring of this year." Ms. Hayward said in a statement. An economic recession has brought the curtain down on thousands of other businesses this year. The company's collapse was the second career upset for the prince. He caused a stir in 1987 when he quit the Royal Marines. Buckingham Palace said the prince did not have any specific plans for his career in the theatre, and would be concentrating on his official duties for the time being.

Tank wrecks cars at U.K. museum

WAREHAM, England (R) — An Iraqi tank captured in the Gulf war crashed into nine parked cars outside a museum in southern England Friday after developing a mechanical fault. The Soviet-made T-55 went out of control as it was being driven back to its hanger after putting on a demonstration at the Tank Museum. "It is extremely fortunate the heavyweight tank didn't run over any people," a police spokesman said.

University dean resigns in U.S. plagiarism incident

BOSTON (R) — A one-time east German fighter pilot has resigned as a Boston University dean for plagiarising parts of a speech by a U.S. film critic, the university has announced. H. Joachim Maitre, dean of the university's College of Communications, admitted he had used large portions of a November speech by film critic Michael Medved almost word for word in a May 12 graduation address at the school. "My folly and carelessness are indisputable and indefensible," Mr. Maitre, 57, said in a letter of resignation to Boston University President John Silber, who announced Mr. Maitre's resignation. Mr. Maitre, who was named dean of the College of Communication in 1987, will remain at the university as a professor. Mr. Maitre has said he had intended to credit Mr. Medved for what at times appeared to be a straight reading of the critic's speech on the decline of morality in American culture, but the graduation ceremony was running long and he forgot. The controversy erupted when the Boston Globe newspaper published an article accusing Mr. Maitre of plagiarism and raw excerpts of his speech alongside portions of Medved's address. Mr. Maitre, 57, was born in Berlin.

Italy unveils new measures to battle sea-slime menace

ROME (R) — Fears of a new invasion of the stinking algae that ruined Italy's seaside tourism two years ago prompted the government to approve nine billion lire (\$6.5 million) in anti-slime measures Friday. "The money will be used for renting special boats, buying barriers to contain the algae and for cleaning up beaches," said Gianfranco Merli, general secretary of the authority which oversees Italy's Adriatic coast. Isolated patches of the jelly-like algae, which has thrived in a recent heat wave, have been sighted floating about eight kilometres offshore from some of the country's most popular east coast resorts. Hoteliers who have been enjoying sellout business this summer, much of it from northern tourists who abandoned the beaches of Yugoslavia, fear a return of the massive outbreak which cut 1989 bookings on the Adriatic coast by 40 per cent.

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